

FACT SHEET

Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV) & Low Speed Vehicles (LSV)

PURPOSE

This fact sheet outlines the procedure for issuance of registration plates for a Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV).

DEFINITION

A NEV is defined as a four-wheeled electric vehicle that has a maximum design speed of not less than 20 miles per hour and of not more than 25 miles per hour and that complies with the Federal safety standards established in 49 CFR 571.500.

USE

A NEV can be identified by examining the proof of ownership document. A NEV shall be considered a passenger vehicle for the purpose of titling and registration. When issuing a Pennsylvania Certificate of Title for a NEV, the body type of NEV must be used. A standard issue registration plate is issued for a NEV. The NEV body type should not be used for any other type of low speed vehicle. The Off Road Vehicle (ORV) body type is still used for all other low speed vehicles.

A NEV operated upon any highway or roadway is required to be maintained in proper condition and comply with the equipment requirements and standards as set forth in 49 CFR 571.500 and shall be equipped with the following:

1. Brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop the vehicle;
2. An odometer;
3. A speedometer;
4. The original manufacturer's Vehicle Identification Number;
5. A windshield wiper;
6. A horn;
7. A battery charge indicator.

In addition, a NEV is required to be covered by financial responsibility. The vehicle shall also have a safety information decal, as provided by the manufacturer, affixed in a conspicuous place on the rear of the vehicle which shall display in prominent lettering "25 MPH Vehicle." The decal shall be at least 4 inches in height by 10 inches in length.

The NEV may not operate on roads with posted speeds above 25 mph.

A NEV is not required to be safety or emissions inspected.

A low speed vehicle can be identified by examining the proof of ownership documents. A Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin will list an indicator of LSV/NEV/ZEV in the series or model field or designate that the vehicle complies with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS).

Low speed vehicles do not meet PA equipment standards. This type of vehicle is not equipped as required by the Vehicle Code and the regulations of the Department to be operated on PA roadways. Consequently, these vehicles cannot be titled and registered for operation on PA roadways.

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