

## **Electric Car Irony, *The Economist*** **Ozzie Zehner**

Citation: Zehner, Ozzie. "On Far-Right Politicians, Guns in America, Child Benefit, Electric Cars, Swearing, Cleanliness." *The Economist* October 21 (2010).

*Background: This is an excerpt of a letter to the editor published in The Economist on October 21, 2010 in response to an article entitled "Highly charged motoring," October 9, 2010. This letter is premised on a chapter from Green Illusions entitled "Hydropower, Hybrids, and other Hydras."*

SIR – Your article left out an irony. Environmentalists generally object to battery-powered devices and for good reason: batteries require mined minerals, employ manufacturing processes that leak toxins into local ecosystems and leave behind an even-worse trail of side effects upon disposal. Though when it comes to the largest mass-produced battery-powered gadget ever created—the electric car—environmentalists cannot jump from their seats fast enough to applaud it.

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### **Bibliography**

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Zehner, Ozzie. *Green Illusions: The Dirty Secrets of Clean Energy and the Future of Environmentalism*. Lincoln, NE and London: University of Nebraska Press, 2012.