Comment from Jonathan Beever

Noise is a growing and empirically-substantiated concern for public health, human encroachment into nonhuman environments, and human experience of natural space. Changing regulation to allow car modes to make more than one sound may increase pedestrian safety (although I am unaware of empirical research that would support this claim), but it may also have adverse effects on natural environments, biodiversity, human sense of place, and unintended complications from adding to already noisy roadway environments. Given the important balancing of harms and benefits that must go on in regulatory negotiation, it seems to me like this proposed policy should be held until sufficient empirical research is complete on the broader implications of increasing the noise profile of electric vehicles.