

# A state backup if Trump kills EV credit

California would offer tax rebates for such vehicles if incoming president carries out threat, Newsom says.

By RUSS MITCHELL

California is prepared to offer state tax rebates for electric vehicle purchases if the incoming Trump administration scuttles the federal EV tax credit, according to Gov. Gavin Newsom.

“We will intervene if the Trump Administration eliminates the federal tax credit, doubling down on our commitment to clean air and green jobs in California,” Newsom said in a statement.

The money “could come from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, which is funded by polluters under the state’s cap-and-trade program,” Newsom’s statement said. That fund pays for clean transportation, sustainable housing, renewable energy, water recycling and other programs.

Any new money designated for EV rebates would have to compete with, and take money from, those other programs. Creation of an EV rebate program probably would require approval of the state Legislature.

Newsom’s statement didn’t say how much the program would cost or how the rebates would work.

Tax credits can substantially reduce the sticker price of a new electric vehicle — but whether automakers raise the sticker price on subsidized electric cars, and by how much, is known only by them.

The credits run as high as \$7,500 per car or truck, but only for those assembled in the United States with a certain percentage of battery and other parts made in countries with which the U.S. has trade agreements. Car dealers can get a tax credit on cars made outside the U.S. and leased to customers. They often lower the lease price to match but are

[See EV, A10]



Photographs by ALLEN J. SCHABEN Los Angeles Times

IF THE incoming Trump administration deports farmworkers without legal status, it’s expected to sharply increase the cost of food.

# California farmers muted as they face mass deportation of workers

Trump’s plans could decimate the agricultural workforce, but many owners think they’ll be spared

By Jessica Garrison and Rebecca Plevin



FARMWORKERS in San Jacinto take a break to listen to a presentation by an immigrants rights group in the Inland Empire about their legal protections.

A paradox has settled across California’s velvet green fields and orchards. California farmers, who are some of the most ardent supporters of Donald Trump, would seem to be on a collision course with one of the president-elect’s most important campaign promises.

Trump has pledged to carry out mass deportations of undocumented immigrants across the country, including, he has said in recent days, rounding up people and putting them in newly built detention camps.

If any such effort penetrated California’s heartland — where half the fruits and vegetables consumed in the U.S. are grown — it almost surely would decimate the workforce that farmers rely on to plant and harvest their crops. At least half of the state’s 162,000 farmworkers are undocumented, according to estimates from the federal Department of Labor and research conducted by UC Merced. Without suffi-

cient workers, food would rot in the fields, sending grocery prices skyrocketing.

And yet, farmers are not railing in protest. Many say they expect the president will support their workforce needs, either through a robust legalization program for workers already here or by leaving farms be and focusing enforcement elsewhere.

Some are also pushing the government to make it easier for them to import temporary guest workers under the H-2A visa program, which allows farms to hire seasonal agricultural workers when the domestic labor supply falls short.

Karoline Leavitt, a spokesperson for the Trump-Vance transition team, did not respond to questions about agricultural workers specifically, but said: “The American people reelected President Trump by a resounding margin, giving him a mandate to implement the

[See Farmers, A7]

# Bird flu virus is detected in raw milk from Fresno dairy

By SUSANNE RUST

State health officials said Sunday that bird flu virus was detected in a retail sample of raw milk from Fresno dairy Raw Farm.

The sample was collected by officials with the Santa Clara County public health office, who have been testing raw milk products from retail stores “as a second line of consumer protection.”

County officials identified the virus in “one sample of raw milk purchased at a retail outlet” on Nov. 21, according to statements from both the state and the county. The county contacted stores Friday and recommended they pull the raw milk from sale. The test results were confirmed Saturday by the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory System at UC

[See Bird flu, A10]



TOMAS OVALLE For The Times

MARK McAFEE of Raw Farm in Fresno issued a voluntary recall for raw milk produced Nov. 9.

## Aunts speak out for Menendezes

The judge at the brothers’ hearing says he needs more time for his resentencing decision. CALIFORNIA, B1

## Musical films get ‘Wicked’ lift

The movie’s huge opening weekend could bring more Broadway adaptations to the big screen. BUSINESS, A6

## What to expect out of Trout?

The Angels are spending this offseason, but when it comes to contention, it’s all about their star. SPORTS, B10

## Weather

Some showers. L.A. Basin: 66/58. B6

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# U.S. moves to end cases against Trump

His return to office necessitates decision on Jan. 6 and classified documents charges.

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER, ERIC TUCKER AND CHRIS MEGERIAN

WASHINGTON — Special counsel Jack Smith moved to abandon two criminal cases against Donald Trump on Monday, acknowledging that the president-elect’s return to the White House will preclude attempts to federally prosecute him for retaining classified documents and trying to overturn his 2020 election defeat.

The decision was inevitable, since long-standing Justice Department policy says sitting presidents can-

not face criminal prosecution. Yet it was still a momentous finale to an unprecedented chapter in political and law enforcement history, as federal officials attempted to hold accountable a former president while he was simultaneously running for another term.

Trump emerges indisputably victorious, having successfully delayed the investigations through legal maneuvers and then winning another term despite indictments that described his actions as a threat to the country’s constitutional foundations.

“I persevered, against all odds, and WON,” Trump exulted in a post on his website Truth Social.

He also said that “these cases, like all of the other cases I have been forced to go through, are empty and lawless, and should never have been brought.”

[See Special counsel, A7]



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