

# Obama's Motorcade Not Going Hybrid

From Sunlen Miller:

President Obama said today that contrary to his requests and due to security reasons, his presidential limousine could not be a hybrid vehicle.

“I asked can we make these cars hybrids,” Obama said at a town hall in Charlotte, North Carolina today. “Secret Service said no. Now, the reason is not because Secret Service are bad guys. It’s because the cars that I’m in are like tanks.”

The president explained because his limo – nicknamed “the beast” is reinforced for security reasons, and weighs over two times the normal weight of cars, “they just couldn’t get the performance in terms of acceleration using a hybrid engine.”

The administration this week announced that after a review, they have purchased more than 5,000 hybrid cars and trucks as part of the federal fleet of vehicles.

“Government purchases an awful lot of cars for all kinds of things, you know we’re — I think we’re the biggest — I’m assuming we’re the biggest car purchaser, maybe — maybe Hertz is bigger, I don’t know. But we’re big,” Obama said today touting the administration’s investment. “So we are using our purchasing power to help encourage the clean car industry.”

The President today [toured Celgard](#), an advanced battery technology

manufacturer, creating clean energy sector jobs with Recovery Act grants.

-Sunlen Miller