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Sunday, December 6, 2009

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DECEMBER 5, 2008, 2:43 PM ET

# Tesla Opposes Redirection of ATVM Funds

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By Marisa Wong



The Tesla Roadster

[The Competition](#) update: You won't see Tesla Motors among the U.S. automakers currently groveling before Congress for a bailout. The Silicon Valley company, whose cars do not use gas at all, did, however, apply in mid-November for a grant from the Department of Energy's Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Incentive Program, known as ATVM. This is a \$25 billion fund earmarked for makers of ultra-fuel-efficient cars that push technology beyond the internal combustion engine.

Congress established the program in December 2007, when it passed the Energy Independence and Security Act. It became a reality in September 2008—a month before sales of U.S. cars dove to near-record levels. When Detroit automakers began jostling for stop-gap cash, the ATVM funds caught their eye, and U.S. carmakers urged Congress to redirect the funds to prop them up.

Tesla—that rarity, a solvent American car company—opposes the redirection, which its Vice President for Business Development, Diarmuid O'Connell, calls an attempt to “pervert the intended purpose of the ATVM program.” Now it's up to Congress to decide. —M.G. Lord

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8:34 AM DECEMBER 6, 2009

**John M wrote:**

It appears as if the author is not aware of the \$528m that has already been committed to Tesla as of June 09, and that the large automakers are also capable of creating and manufacturing advanced technology vehicles.

5:54 PM DECEMBER 7, 2008

**Don Leve wrote:**

You indicate that a recipe for Cassoulet is available on this website. I give up. What are the magic words or keystrokes necessary to locate this item as it surely is not one of the 31 items listed above.

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