

Townsend, Erle

From: Crystal Nicholas <ajshos@gmail.com>
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To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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Dear Maine Board of "Environmental Protection",

I reject your assumption of power to remove choices for the everyday person here in Maine as to what type of vehicle they own and drive. Though the motives for such an act are shrouded under the guise of "environmental protection", they are anything but this. Not only are electric vehicles risky unreliable investments, they are dangerous and toxic, much more so than a standard gasoline-powered vehicle. My own local mechanic/tow-truck driver refuses to even accept these vehicles after his associate's garage suffered a horrific fire and loss after an electric vehicle awaiting repair spontaneously combusted. This gentleman explained to me that the very make-up of these vehicles renders repair as well as rescue attempts life-threatening for mechanics and first responders, as anyone approaching the disabled vehicle may be its next victim through electric shock. My local mechanic explained that many of his associates will only accept electric vehicles into a concrete bunker away from their facilities. What does this predict for families with electric vehicles in their garages?

This danger doesn't even begin to scratch the surface of the environmental costs and hazards of lithium-mining and the conundrum of what to do with the expired highly poisonous batteries. I guess we will see these dumped by the side of the road fouling our precious waterways when everyday folk can't afford the heavy financial burden of paying to dispose of them and they are too flammable to store at one's home. How environmentally conscious, indeed!

Electric vehicles are needlessly expensive and out-of-reach for most Mainers, and our State's subsidy of them would only drive up costs for the average citizen attempting to be environmentally and fiscally responsible and maintain their current vehicle(s). Nor is there an infrastructure in place to support such a fleet of these electric vehicles, and the institution of one would be placed on the back of the everyday taxpayers who would not see a drop of gain, only perpetual penury.

This sudden move to adopt the standards of another state reek of corruption and the removal of community standards on which our states are created. The only individuals that want such outrageous mandates are those that seek to defraud the people of their wealth in order to invest in some ridiculous venture designed to fail and ruin us all to the benefit of an odious few. This mandate is being represented as an "opportunity" when it is really nothing more than power grab motivated by greed; the average citizen of Maine is being depicted as a half-witted Philistine by the state-sponsored media that has to be dragged kicking and screaming "for their own good" into the 21st century.

I advise you to cease enriching the already wealthy who are exempt from these mandates and eschew spurious "climate science" and its accompanying manufactured "climate crisis" that is forever used to move the goal posts and extract control from the people--the dishonesty of your scheme is palpable.

"Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It would be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busybodies. The robber baron's cruelty may sometimes

sleep, his cupidity may at some point be satiated; but those who torment us for our own good will torment up without end for they do so with the approval of their own conscience."

--C.S. Lewis

Respectfully,

Crystal Nicholas