

Townsend, Erle

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To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Electric vehicle mandates

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As a Maine taxpayer that dislike the continuing escalation of electric bills over the years, I disagree with the idea to mandate that electric vehicles be forced upon the hard working people of Maine. Many families in Maine continually struggle to pay for basic necessities due to the increases in the costs.

Furthermore, the materials required to make the batteries necessary for electric vehicles are dwindling. With very few recycling plants for the batteries, refuse points are being filled with toxic materials that will further deteriorate the soil and waters of Maine.

Another problem that has been seen is that when these batteries fail, the results have been deadly. Fires starting whilst people are driving down the road trapping them in their car as the electronics fail to work and unlock the vehicles.

Instead of following the idea of mandating electric vehicles like California has done, we should be trying correct the problems with the costs of basics so that the families of Maine can live without worrying about losing their home and living on the street with their children.

These are my concerns about the mandate and will be watching to see if they are addressed before forcing many more people into poverty.

Eric Shannon