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From: fritapeeple <frita.peeple@proton.me>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 7:17 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Proposed Fuel Use and Electric Car Mandates.

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Imposing laws or regulations to force the public to buy electric vehicles is irresponsible at best and more alarming, dangerous. Electric vehicle technology has not advanced anywhere near the level required to ensure safe and reliable transportation. So many glaring red flags exist with the unreliability and outright danger of using lithium batteries:

- the extreme environmental hazards of mining, manufacturing, using and disposing of lithium batteries on a large scale. Mass child labor used in the mining of these heavy metals mostly in the Congo-an industry controlled by China. I thought this whole scheme was to save the environment. What a farce.
- the danger of driving a cars powered by lithium batteries, which have proven to be highly volatile when exposed to various weather extremes. It is not uncommon for a lithium battery to burst into flames along with the car and occupants.
- the heavy reliance on electricity and inefficient charging stations. Despite the fact that Mills has littered our state with massive solar farms with most of the power immediately being transported out of state, Mainers continue to pay exorbitant electric bills each month causing hardship for many families. With the millions and millions spent for this unreliable source, the grid is nowhere near capable of generating the electricity needed to supply current needs as well as the massive drain that mandated EVs would require. Maine would be subject to power rationing and even higher electric bills.

Let's be honest. This whole push to mandate EVs is part of the current US government's acquiescence to a global plan to drive all public needs to the grid where they can be controlled and used for surveillance and control of private citizens. I am adamantly against the government's willingness to spend billions of OUR tax dollars on this clearly reckless and predatory attempt to remove still more free choice from free people. I will not comply.

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