

Townsend, Erle

From: George Russell <george-russell@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2023 11:28 AM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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DO NOT ADOPT THIS MANDATE!

I am adamantly opposed to government mandating the type of vehicles available for purchase by consumers. This is Maine, "The way life should be," not California, "The land of fruits and nuts." The true American way of life is based on capitalism and consumer choice, NOT socialist central planning.

The higher cost of EVs is a significant factor in consumer decisions, as well as the reduced range of EVs versus ICE vehicles and the lack of a fully developed system of charging stations. The ecological impact of mining material for EV batteries, and the eventual disposal of the batteries need to be further investigated, and the ability of the already strained power grid to handle increased demand is another significant issue which has not been adequately addressed. Once these basic issues are resolved, the free market (consumer choice) will determine the extent to which EVs can meet the transportation needs of Maine Citizens.

Maine residents should not be subjected to arbitrary mandates created by unelected board members because of a petition by a vocal minority. This is NOT the American way! At the very least, imposition of such a draconian mandate should be the result of legislation passed by elected representatives, preceded by a referendum to enable all affected citizens to have their say in this matter.

DO NOT ADOPT THIS MANDATE!

George Russell
Harpwell