

## Townsend, Erle

---

**From:** Jeffrey Bickford <jrbick3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 22, 2024 4:39 PM  
**To:** DEP Rule Comments  
**Subject:** Electric Vehicle comments

**EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Maine's cost of living was staggeringly out of control in 2023 due in large part to the high cost of electricity and vehicles.

The current auto market, new and used, is experiencing unprecedented price levels. The cost to repair is also very high.

Now is NOT the time to add MORE burden to Maine's cost of living. Many of us are BARELY making it without these tone deaf electric vehicle laws.

Things to do before jumping on the EV bandwagon: make Maine affordable again, improve electric infrastructure, drive down the cost of electricity and keep it there, improve affordable housing AND the quality of affordable housing.

We are so far behind everywhere else. These EV laws are putting the cart well ahead of the horse.

Jeffrey Bickford