

Townsend, Erle

From: John Bell <jnebell.1949@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 8:10 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Electric Car Mandate

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I am writing in objection to the electric car mandate for Maine. Here are some serious statistics for our state from the CMS data regarding social determinants of health.

1. **"As the second most rural state, Maine experiences major transportation access challenges."** If electric cars are forced on the people of Maine, this will rise even higher.
2. **"Maine is the 7th hungriest state in the US."** If our people already are not able to feed themselves how will buying an electric car help this? It won't and we will be even hungrier.
3. **"About 45% of homicides in Maine each year are related to domestic conflicts."** With the added pressures of mandating electric cars, domestic issues will continue to rise.
4. **"4,258 Mainers experienced homelessness in 2023."** Again, increased cost and maintenance of electric cars will only impact this figure.
5. Those that do have housing as renters, **"spend 30% or more of household income on utilities."** Mandating electric car ownership will impact their total finances.

Let Mainers decide per their own preferences if an electric car is what they want. **Do not make this a law.**

Respectfully submitted,
John E. Bell