

## Townsend, Erle

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**From:** K. Cadman <cadman.k@gmail.com>  
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**To:** DEP Rule Comments  
**Subject:** 127-A comment

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Thank you for taking my comments into consideration:

Public Input to EV Mandate 2024

I am hoping that Mother Nature is demonstrating how implausible EVs are in our current era, especially in Maine.

It was rather ironic that the MBEP had to cancel their December meeting due to power outages. That says something right there.

Starting with that point, here is a list of factors that would logically lead to the realization that this is not the time nor the place for the mandate that your board is considering:

- Our power grid is outdated and weak, and is not sufficient to handle the present demands, much less the increased demand that this mandate would implement.
- Our power grid will be even more unreliable as administrations force the US to move away from fossil fuels.
- Currently - most of our power comes from fossil fuels, and we have not proven that we can sustain our society and economy without these fuels.
- Obviously these EVs do not perform well, if at all, in cold weather. "According to AAA, research shows when the temperature drops to 20 degrees and you turn the heat on, the driving range is decreased by 41%, which means you would only get 59 miles out of what would be 100 when the weather is warmer." It is well known that these batteries do not perform well in the cold, impacting both driving range and charging speed.
- Batteries are built using materials which are questionably sourced - from foreign countries, and from horrific child labor in some countries. And obviously, there is not an endless supply of these materials, to say nothing of the impact of mining on the environment.
- How do we safely dispose of these batteries?
- How can the average consumer bear the cost of replacing these batteries?
- How can the average consumer bear the cost of repairing an EV?
- How can the average consumer bear the cost of wiring an adequate power source into their home, much less paying the resulting electric bill?
- And honestly, how does the average consumer afford to purchase an EV?
- How will our roads and bridges hold up under the substantial increase in weight of all these vehicles? And with the corresponding decrease in funds from the gasoline tax, how are we going to pay for maintaining roads and bridges?
- How will our fire departments manage the fires that are so difficult to put out involving these vehicles?
- How can our economy run efficiently when transportation is held up by long delays necessary to recharge the batteries?
- Already vehicle manufacturers are losing buckets of money on these EVs, despite the huge subsidies.
- Already electric buses are sitting idle due to malfunctions and repairs that are too costly to complete.
- Will anyone be willing to be a sitting duck in some unfamiliar area while waiting for their vehicle to charge?

One additional point -changes of this magnitude should be put to a vote by the citizens.

We need to upgrade our power grid, and secure it (I don't think we are even taking steps to safeguard against EMP attacks).

I have read that the state of Connecticut has abandoned their plan to implement such a mandate, and I am imploring you to do the same.

Respectfully,  
Kail Cadman