

Townsend, Erle

From: Kurt Jepson <kurtjepson@gmail.com>
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To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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To whom concerned,

I am a retired “ true” resident, having been born and spent also 7 decades in my beloved state. In a nutshell I’m so tired of being told what is “ right” for me and those peers with whom I relate. I’m not as smart as the people that run our state , but none the less managed to become educated (in state) and build a business that employed over 50 people. A major flaw with our state government is that outside interests and a very small percentage of residents can drive policy which suits their ideals at the expense of others, even a majority of other Maine residents.

2032 is not far away. Can we please stop putting the cart in front of the horse?

The demand for EV s is predictably low given registration fees, purchase price, excise tax on sticker value, range, cold weather compromise, charging availability, logistics, dealer availability, the list goes on.

Major successful manufacturers have pulled back from EV production and RD as their marketing analysts look at unresponsive data. I would not consider Toyota to be a non educated, rookie player.

Like it or not Maine is a wood products, fishing, farming, and tourism state. Roads and infrastructure are paramount to tourist access. The post COVID federal money earmarked to build and repair infrastructure requires heavy equipment, all fuel driven. I guess that can go on hold as companies and the state itself tries to purchase heavy battery vehicles.

Regarding Maines electricity production , I was surprised to see on the .gov site that 55% of Maine generation comes from pellet combustion. The need for more electricity t for charging stations will mandate more combustion. Doesn’t sound very enviro friendly to me.

Based on supply and demand, guess what those heavy vehicles will cost? Tax increases? Predictable. Why is it the people who propose and pass policy neither have a concern ,nor can they relate to everyday finances , of Maine residents? Are they from away just used to big city economies? Trust-afarens? Salaried bureaucrats without accountability? Just blinded by the possibility of grabbing a headline?

Let’s for sure let’s mimic CA policy. Look how well that state is doing. Businesses leaving at record rates, an 18% population exodus, state tax rate, etc. They really seem to be on an effective policy roll.

Lastly, who does this policy benefit downstream? How about China, Russia, dictators in Africa. The raw materials required for EV are major exports of these countries. Think they’ll use EVs to extract these elements? What do these countries contribute to global warming? Do they care? What do you think they’ll spend proceeds on? The proposed policy and associated hypocrisy is staggering, even laughable ,....except it isn’t.

EVs are perhaps a viable piece to addressing our overall energy consumption issues in this country, but can we look at common sense steps which weigh cost benefit please?

Concerned resident,
K Jepson
Scarborough