

Townsend, Erle

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To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Chapter 127-A Advanced Clean Cars II Program

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I am writing in response to the Maine BEP considering that 43% of new car sales are to be EV's.

Please do not do this to us here in Maine. Let the market decide if an electric vehicle is suitable for use in Maine, rather than making it a mandate. The EV's are currently not suitable for our cold winters, as witnessed recently in Chicago when most EV's were stranded for days due to the cold temperatures causing a high drain on the batteries.

The infrastructure does not exist to support EV charging yet, although there has been a grant approved for more chargers in Maine, but that will take years to accomplish. If an EV could charge in the same amount of time it takes to fuel an internal combustion engine vehicle, people would be more likely to want one. The problem is, although there are some areas in Maine with higher populations, we are for the most part, a rural State. Seriously, I live in Washington County and travel clear to the other end of the State for work. It is not feasible for me to try to find a charger and sit there for an hour or more, and not get a full charge, then have to do the same thing again, later in my journey.

The technology is not where it should be to make EV's viable. As I said, let the market decide. Why should 150 people who sign a petition be the factor that deems we all should be driving EV's. Those that signed probably have the means to both afford one and live in an area where chargers are available. If it's great for them, fine, but it won't work for most of us.

Please, do not make EV's a mandate.

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