

Townsend, Erle

From: mhill19783@aol.com
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To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Electric Vehicle Mandate

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Dear Rules Committee,

Your EV Mandate proposal is deeply flawed.

According to Barrons (1/8/24) 60% of our electricity comes from Coal & Natural Gas, 20% from nuclear and 20% from "renewables". Of the renewables 10.3% comes from Wind, 6% from Hydropower, 3.4% from Solar and 2.5% from "other". Other consists of "burning" wood, wood pellets, wood chips and propane. "Burning" - just like coal. And "hydro" is being reduced as legislators gave-in to special interests to remove dams to improve fish runs & fish migration. Nothing much has changed in the electricity grid in 20 years and overall demand has increased just 0.4% annually since 2000. The demand does not exist to lure the required capital to invest in it or the grid to support it. This doesn't even address the environmental issues of mining lithium (Rhetorical question: Why is a coal mine operated by grown men bad, but a lithium mine using underage youth good?). This doesn't even address disposing of lithium batteries (with an estimated useful life of 7 years or less) & windmill blades, constructed out of non-recyclable materials, that are currently being buried in land-fills at the end of their useful life. I grew up in Hancock County, Cape Rosier has the former Kerr-America Copper Mine that was declared a "super-fund hazardous waste site" 20 years ago and to date has not been cleaned up. When out expediency, lithium batteries and windmill blades start getting dumped everywhere, are those going to get cleaned up in a timely manner?

Central Maine Power can't support Mainer's needs in providing reliable energy now (note: recent week-long outages after the recent storms). CMP has done more for generator sales than any advertising campaign. On top of all this, the charging infrastructure, the physical stations, will take years to install for a technology that won' allow you to drive from one end of the state to the other in under 24 hours.

None of this even addresses the short-comings of the vehicles ranges (i.e.: manufacturers exaggerate the vehicles range, similar to the EPA gas estimates) and degradations in cold weather (Note: recent news items regarding recent issues during January's cold snap). Lastly, the costs of the vehicles are beyond the affordability of most Mainers.

This is a pipe dream, get your act together!

Regards,
Mark Hill
Taxpayer & Voter