

Townsend, Erle

From: Michael Fiset <mfisette@maine.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2023 12:13 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Cc: Hobbs, Daniel; Rafferty, Joe; Bierman, Earl; Bott, John; Slavin, Craig; Burke, Ruth A; MEHouseRepublicans@subscriptions.maine.gov
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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I Strongly object to subject rule mandating EV sales. Reasons:

1. Mineral mining

- a. Unethical, child labor, pollution. BBC just reported on 13 killed at Indonesia nickel plant
 - b. Lithium mining causes water, soil & air pollution, toxic fumes
 - c. Foreign dependency 100% graphite, manganese, 76% cobalt, 50% or greater lithium, nickel
2. Recycling not easy, technology limited, toxic effects of battery disposal
3. Majority of prior comments were objections-4X support and 2X initiating petition(340 vs 82)+ petitions with very many more who object
4. Costs

a. High initial cost even with taxpayer funded incentives and rebates. NOTE: Maine already in top 10 highly taxed states.

- b. High depreciation rates, poor resale and used car values
- c. High repair costs
- d. Higher registration fees and other yet to be defined fees to offset loss of gas tax
- e. Higher car and truck insurance costs
- f. Costs for home chargers
- g. Higher electricity rates very likely if increased demand
- h. Increased costs for new and improved infrastructure
- i. Increased costs for automotive dealers and also repair garages and mechanics
- j. Cost associated with inevitable legal challenges to an unelected board's rule making
- k. If mandates not met and manufacturers are fined those costs get passed on to consumers

5. Functional limitations and risks

- a. Range loss under cold temperatures especially when using heater and hot as well especially when using A/C
- b. Limited charger availability, charger compatibility concerns, and long charging times
- c.. Risk of having a pacemaker near chargers
- d. Chargers and EV's prone to hacker attacks
- e. Inability to charge during power outages

f. Risk to safety if stuck on interstate highway due to major accident on cold, snowy, or very hot day and battery charge runs out 6. Emergency and military tactical vehicles needing exemptions. (tells us something about EV's) 7. Heavier vehicles= more road damage plus more brake and tire emissions and replacement costs 8. Hazardous fire risk and extremely hard to extinguish fires 9. Risk to damaged battery pack due to road salt, deep water or snow, minor rear end accidents.

10. Electrical grid limitations

11. Apartment dwellers with no or very limited access to chargers 12. Rural Mainers concerns with limited range and charger availability 13. Untrained and unskilled mechanics 14. Affluent buyers could probably afford a second vehicle with an ICE, but not everyone can 15. Unfairly and unnecessarily restricting freedom of choice. What will be next on activists hit list? Unrealistic goals. Buy an EV if you want to. The EV mandate might be as viable as alcohol probation was.

16. Some buyers will buy out of state, e.g. New Hampshire, Florida 17. Some of Maine residents with a seasonal home in another less taxed state may leave Maine residency. Don't become another California 18. Negative impacts on auto dealers including costs for retooling, training, unsold EV's on lot.

Sincerely, Michael Fiset
Wells, Maine