

Townsend, Erle

From: Hinkel, Bill
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 8:54 AM
To: Townsend, Erle; Cayting, Lynne A
Cc: Burke, Ruth A
Subject: FW: BEP question/comment

Forwarding the comment below.

Thanks,
Bill

-----Original Message-----

From: rbilancia@roadrunner.com <rbilancia@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 8:42 AM
To: Hinkel, Bill <Bill.Hinkel@maine.gov>
Cc: Burke, Ruth A <Ruth.A.Burke@maine.gov>
Subject: BEP question/comment

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To: BEP
From: James Bilancia
Email: rbilancia@roadrunner.com
Other contact info:

Question or Comment

Hello, I have some questions regarding the proposed EV standards.

* Just what kind of new investment is coming for additional charging stations, and how soon will they be installed all over the state? We need MANY more to make this work.

* Just what new rebates or other financial aid programs are going to be available to make EV's more affordable to include pre-owned EV's? We have MANY low-income people in Maine.

* What new financial aid programs are going to be available to help people buy the at-home charging equipment that will be needed?

- * What about the cost of car battery maintenance and replacement? What help will there be for that?
- * People are very concerned about the limited RANGE of EV's in this very rural state, and the time needed for re-charging. How do you address these concerns?
- * With SO MANY more EV's on the road, how will this affect the capacity of our power grid and our electricity costs? What do people do when there are power outages because we have too many power outages in Maine.
- * Please clarify the situation around gas/electric HYBRID vehicles. Do those count as EV's? Just how do these types of vehicles play into the plan?
- * I also think you have to make it clear that this would not affect ownership of current vehicles, and traditional vehicles would still be available, especially on the used market, for a long time.

I want to be clear. I am very environmentally-conscious and support at least a gradual move to more EV's/Hybrids to meet climate goals, etc. But there is tremendous anxiety and concern among many Mainers around the PACE of this, the potential COSTS, the feasibility, the impact on our power grid, etc. It is important that this plan be done RIGHT and that there be enough public buy-in on this and that Mainers do not feel something is being forced down their throats too quickly, or there will be serious public backlash politically, through litigation, etc. Mainers need to UNDERSTAND THE PLAN very clearly, and the concerns and anxieties need to be relieved.

Thanks, James Bilancia, Brewer, Maine