

Townsend, Erle

From: Judy Brossmer <judybrossmer@masiello.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 12:37 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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Dear Governor Mills and Legislature,

I know that the day will come when gas powered vehicles will be a thing of the past but that day is not and should not be here yet. We are in no way ready for the reality of Electric Vehicles and we won't be any time soon. Developing infrastructure and planning is in the beginning stages at this point and to force these vehicles on our people would create a terrible hardship. Certainly, those who want to purchase them should be able to do so but there are so many instances where they just wouldn't work. They would be wonderful for city driving and for situations that don't require long distance driving. That being said, there are so many negatives at this point, that they would create problems.

There are so many issues regarding these vehicles and I would like to make note of them for you. The first being the lack of charging stations. I know people are encouraged to put charging stations at their homes but can the grid support that amount of draw on power? My family is 500 miles away. I can travel that distance in a day to see them but none of these vehicles has that kind of range. No one driving on a trip wants to wait for a half hour or more to charge the vehicle at the halfway point. Keep in mind that time will be much longer if there's a car ahead of you charging. We had storms this year already that cause extended power outages. What could the problem be there? My understanding is that these vehicles are less efficient in cold weather, we live in Maine. Many of us have to travel long distances to get from point A to point B. There's also the extra wear on our roads due to the added weight on these vehicles and we just found out that the existing guard rails are not strong enough to handle their weight. Speaking of roads, we have a gas tax that helps with the maintenance of our roads. Where is funding going to come from for that? Might that add some cost to our already over used over priced grid?

Finally, I would like to say that I don't like mandates. This is a mandate on car dealerships and consumers that will not end well. Maine is not a wealthy state and many consumers will not be able to afford the electric cars. The dealerships are going to end up having a lot of useless inventory that they will have to discount to move which in the end will result in many to having to close. There goes free enterprise and competition!

Please put this issue on hold and revisit it once we are in a position to make the transition in a positive way. Don't impose mandates on the citizens of Maine that will result in hardships. There is a time and a place for everything but this in not the time and it's also not the place for this kind of imposition. Vote to put this issue on hold until we are actually ready for it.

Thank you,

Judy Brossmer

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