

## Townsend, Erle

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**From:** Keith Buzzell <keithbuzzell@hotmail.com>  
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**To:** DEP Rule Comments  
**Subject:** Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

**Categories:** Red Category

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Good Morning,

In response to this request for public comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting) please consider the following.

According to a December article in consumer reports EV's have almost 80% more mechanical problems than petroleum powered vehicles and are generally less reliable. This report is based on information obtained from 330,000 EV's made from 2020-2023.

The problem's faced using most or only EV's is evident by the necessity to move the original date of the final vote from December 21<sup>st</sup> to February 5th. With no power for 200,000 customers in Maine due to the storm the only vehicles that could reliably run were gas and diesel powered as they do not require electricity to charge them.

Amongst the EV Industries 10 biggest challenges (accord to the EV Industry blog) are:

- Purchase cost with almost none under \$30K
  - The average annual household income in Maine is \$83,914, while the median household income sits at \$63,182 per year. Residents aged 25 to 44 earn \$74,827, while those between 45 and 64 years old have a median wage of \$74,619. In contrast, people younger than 25 and those older than 65 earn less, at \$41,563 and \$45,579, respectively. After taxes and rent, food and utilities how are Mainers going to pay another \$700.00 to \$900.00 per MONTH for a \$40,000 EV (if you can find one) at 5-6% interest over 60 months) impossible!!!
  - Range is limited to 200-300 miles without charging in Temperate conditions, which is not Maine. According to Efficiency Maine EV's loose up to 40% of their range when temperatures drop to 20 degrees F. Reports from Northern states indicate that EV batteries can go flat and cant be charged at temperatures go below 0 F.
  - There is a lack of technicians to work on EV's
  - The infrastructure in the US is severely lacking and old. The DOE estimates that a 38% power supply increase will be needed in the next 20 years just for EV's. Maine rural areas do not have the capacity for this change.
  - There are currently only 470 or so charging stations for the public in Maine. of which only about 5% are North of Bangor.
  - Charging systems at home cost from around \$2500.00 for 120V which can take up to 20 hrs. to charge an EV to as much as \$36,000 for quick charging stations that can still take 4-6 hours to charge depending on environmental conditions and battery size. Never mind the cost of electricity to charge them that no one wants to talk about.

Add these up and you get a very bad deal for Mainers who are struggling to pay their bills and many needing to travel to work, daycare and groceries at distances that they can barely afford now.

Keith Buzzell