

Townsend, Erle

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To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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"Electric vehicles may seem like a promising solution for reducing emissions and combating climate change, but they are not necessarily the best option for a state like Maine. Here are a few reasons why:

1. Limited charging infrastructure: Maine is a large state with vast rural areas. Installing a comprehensive charging infrastructure throughout the state would be a massive undertaking and could be extremely costly. Without a reliable and widespread charging network, electric vehicle owners in Maine would face significant challenges, especially during long-distance travel.
2. Cold weather performance: Maine experiences harsh winters with freezing temperatures. Electric vehicles tend to have reduced range and performance in cold weather conditions. This limitation could be particularly problematic in a state where extreme weather conditions are common. Additionally, electric vehicle batteries may degrade faster in cold temperatures, leading to reduced longevity and increased replacement costs.
3. Dependence on electricity grid: Electric vehicles rely on the electricity grid for charging. In Maine, where power outages are not uncommon, this dependence could pose a significant inconvenience for electric vehicle owners. During power outages, gasoline-powered vehicles provide a reliable transportation option, while electric vehicles would be rendered useless without access to charging infrastructure.
4. Economic implications: Maine has a significant reliance on the fossil fuel industry, particularly in terms of employment and revenue generation. The widespread adoption of electric vehicles could have negative economic consequences for the state, potentially leading to job losses and a decline in revenue from traditional fuel sources.

While electric vehicles may have their merits in certain regions, the unique geographical and climatic characteristics of Maine make them a less practical choice for the state. It is important

to consider alternative solutions that are better suited to Maine's specific needs and challenges."

Regards, Lloyd Reynolds

From Mdcv Secure