

Townsend, Erle

From: Matthew Garside <matthew.j.garside@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 2:16 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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Dear Maine BEP,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed rule change to Chapter 127 that would mandate an increasing percentage of new vehicle sales be made up of EV's.

Government interference in the private market rarely produces the intended result. If EV's are what Mainer's want to drive, they will purchase them on their own - they will not need the Government dictating how many of various types of vehicles may be sold in the State. Doing so will artificially raise the price of conventional powered vehicles.

The infrastructure to support such a draconian mandate does not exist. Areas near our urban centers do have a small, but burgeoning network of chargers. However, the farther you get from Portland, Augusta, or Bangor the less charging options you have.

Some EV owners will opt to charge their vehicle overnight at their home both for convenience and to take advantage of lower electricity rates during the overnight period. This methodology will not work for those who live in an apartment or condominium complex. And while these complexes may have charging stations, they will not be enough to meet the needs of residents.

The higher prices of conventionally powered vehicles I mentioned above will adversely affect poorer Mainers. This group is unlikely to have the means to purchase a more expensive electric vehicle and would be disadvantaged.

I urge you not to make changes to Chapter 127 that would mandate that a percentage of sales of new vehicles be electric vehicles. I believe it is bad public policy.

Sincerely,

Matt Garside
New Gloucester