

Townsend, Erle

From: raflotilla@aol.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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Legislators,

I stand opposed to this proposal. As currently designed, electric vehicle batteries cannot be recycled. Manufacture of these Lithium batteries requires massive devastation to the earth to mine the ore. The batteries are a fire hazard, and exceedingly difficult to extinguish if they catch fire. The cobalt for the motors is intensively mined by child labor under slave conditions in African countries. Assuming that a charging infrastructure broad enough to service all of Maine is constructed and installed (most likely at taxpayer expense, as with most Democrat proposals), it will need to be powered by fossil fueled power generation. You cannot provide such a grid powered by sunbeams or wishmills. Perhaps you'll support construction of nuclear power plants to provide the power! Finally, some of you will perhaps have noticed that we live in a cold climate. Just this month EV owners in Chicago faced extreme cold conditions under which their vehicles or the charging stations themselves would not function, or charging times were extremely slow. In short, the technology is far more expensive, is not reliable, has environmental costs which far exceed that of internal combustion vehicles, and it is not economically feasible for a state such as Maine in any areas outside of the major cities.

Perhaps you should all (or at least the sponsors of the proposed bill) turn in your internal combustion vehicles in exchange for electric vehicles, so that you can experience some of the pain which passage of the bill would impose on the people of Maine.

Robert Flot
Wells, Maine