

Townsend, Erle

From: Robert D. McQueeney Jr. <uphillklimber@yahoo.com>
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To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I have read thru some of the proposal to force Mainers to convert to electric vehicles. Let's start by saying that I am thoroughly against this proposal. Government forcing proposals upon the populace is not my idea of government of the people, by the people and for the people.

Several reasons I am against such a proposal. I have to take some half dozen to one dozen long trips per year, requiring me to travel 1000 miles or so. Some only require 300 miles. Every one of these trips would be handicapped by having to recharge frequently, and even more so were I to need heat or AC.

I am aware that manufacturers are bragging about maximum mileage of 300 miles (or so). But that requires a full 100% charge and running it right down to near zero. And yet, for battery efficiency, they recommend never charging above 80% and never going below 20% Effectively, that leaves about 60% of the 300 mileage advertised range, becoming 180 miles.

Just on the off chance you haven't noticed, it gets cold in Maine. We need heat in our vehicles. That will substantially reduce the range. That's just not going to work real well in the coldest months, which Maine is known for.

Now, let's talk cost of these vehicles. I spend about 10% of my annual income on car payments, settling on 5 years worth of payments. So basically I buy a car at 50% of my annual income. And I can do that now, only that I am retired and no longer raising a family. I heard an electric car proponent brag about electric car prices starting at \$30,000.00, after all rebates etc.... To be able to comfortably afford an electric vehicle, I need an annual income of about \$60,000.00. Being retired and living on my investments and social security, I don't see myself making that kind of money at any time in the future.

Let's chat about electric car rebates for a minute. I have many friends who own them, by choice. These folks can well afford such a car, and yet, they get rebates, paid for by taxes on everyone else, including those who can not afford such expensive cars. I am in favor of eliminating rebates on electric cars. If they are such a great idea (sarcasm intended), they should be able to stand alone in the market place without such energy rebates.

In closing, please do not force the populace of Maine to buy such expensive cars that they can hardly afford.

Lovin life,

Bob Jr

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