

Townsend, Erle

From: A. Hill <ross.hill@downstate.edu>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 12:40 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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DEP,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposal to adopt Advanced Clean Car II standards starting with model year 2028. The proposal not only expands consumer choices by giving Mainers access to more models of zero-emission cars and trucks each year, but also ensures significant savings for Maine drivers, with electric vehicle refueling costs substantially lower than their gas counterparts.

As Maine's largest source of climate pollution, we can't address climate change without tackling pollution from cars and trucks. These standards, tailored to our state's climate goals, build on decades of experience in Maine adopting strong standards for tailpipe pollution and fuel efficiency, and will cut climate pollution from cars and trucks by three-quarters. The flexibility embedded in the program ensures a feasible transition, and manufacturers have been clear that they will be able to meet the targets included in the program.

Last, Mainers want more clean cars. EVs on the road have tripled since 2020. Implementation of these standards aligns with the growing public interest and ensures Maine will receive more zero-emission vehicle options from automakers over time.

I strongly urge the Board of Environmental Protection to adopt the proposed ACCII standards which will save Mainers money, reduce harmful air pollution, and aid in Maine's efforts to tackle climate change.

Requiring that all new public transportation (buses, state agency cars, ambulances, etc.) be electric wherever feasible should be part of the plan to move the state away from carbon-based fuels.

Stronger standards on vehicular pollution (including greenhouse gases) are essential to solving the complex problem of global heating and climate change, a dire threat from which Maine already suffers. Maine will benefit from being in the forefront of this long-term effort to preserve the biosphere that we all depend on.

Sincerely,
A. Hill
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