

Townsend, Erle

From: Colene Flaherty <barcol@myfairpoint.net>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 11:42 AM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Make Maine a Leader in Climate Action with Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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It's time for Maine to become a leader in climate action and clean air by instituting state-wide clean cars standards. Extreme weather events put many communities across the state through hardships that will likely continue as climate change worsens. We know that transportation is the leading producer of climate-altering pollutants in Maine, so putting clean car rules in place will make the air cleaner and the state safer for our future generations.

I urge you to swiftly adopt the Advanced Clean Car II standards starting with model year 2028 so Maine consumers have more affordable and sustainable options when purchasing new vehicles. Electric vehicles are cheaper each time they are charged compared with their gas-powered counterparts, and with more zero-emission options being added to the market each year, more and more Mainers will have the choice to purchase an electric vehicle than ever before. Manufacturers have made it clear that they are ready to meet the targets and rising demand of the clean cars program.

It was disappointing when the December 21st vote had to be canceled for the devastating storm that swept through Maine, but that storm was a sign that Maine urgently needs to fight the climate crisis on all fronts. I hope you will adopt the Advanced Clean Car II standards for model year 2028, for Maine's climate and air.

Sincerely,
Colene Flaherty
Colene Flaherty