

## Townsend, Erle

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**From:** Harsha Somaya <hmsoma25@colby.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 1:30 PM  
**To:** DEP Rule Comments  
**Subject:** Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

**Categories:** Red Category

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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.

Sincerely,  
Harsha Somaya  
207 Snow Owl Way  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044