

Townsend, Erle

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Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 7:53 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Clean Car Standards

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To Whom it May Concern:

My husband travels a great deal for work. I should say he drives a great deal, which is more accurate. We purchased our first hybrid more than a decade ago after discussion about making responsible choices for the environment. Our C-Max is still running with little to no issues and has been a win-win for this family. We saved money on gas and supported a cleaner environment for Maine at the same time. We were both born and raised here and love Maine's natural beauty which should be protected. Cleaner car standards are also a win for the environment and Climate Change. We all know that we are entering Climate Change and Maine has an opportunity to be a front runner in the work of protecting our natural resources and improving air quality. Clean car standards are part of that. Our location here in the East means that we are on the receiving end of air pollution as it pushes across the continent. That is the reason why some people call us "the tailpipe of the nation." Higher clean car standards are a chance to help protect public health, support the environment and move forward away from intensive use of fossil fuels. We need this action more than ever. I hope you will support this initiative. BTW, plenty of people laughed at us when he bought his first hybrid. It's still running fine. And when it was time to get another vehicle, we chose a KIA hybrid, knowing that it was reliable and economical and less harmful to the environment. While we would like to see more charging stations, we have not once regretted our decision.

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