

## Townsend, Erle

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**From:** Thomas Kessler <tsk@gwi.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2024 4:14 PM  
**To:** DEP Rule Comments  
**Subject:** Ch. 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II

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Dear Board Members,

We don't need a clearer reminder that climate change is happening right now than the storms that ended 2023 and rang in the New Year, cutting power for families and businesses and wreaking havoc on the state. That's why, as a Maine resident, I want the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt the amended clean cars II standards.

The reposted rule has been amended to begin with model year 2028, delaying the myriad benefits of clean cars including more breathable air, less climate-damaging emissions, and cost-savings for Maine families and businesses. This only increases the urgency with which the Board must act. Maine cannot afford to lose out on yet another year of implementation.

It's no secret that transportation is the largest source of carbon pollution fueling climate change in our state. That's on top of the fact that these very same fossil fuel-powered cars spew toxic pollutants into our air, lowering Maine's air quality. If this threat to our health isn't enough, our car- and truck-congested highways and roads are disproportionately located in or near low-income communities and communities of color. No one deserves to have noxious tailpipe fumes looming over their homes, loved ones, and children.

We deserve commitment from our decision-makers, like you, to climate action that will slow the crisis and protect the people we love. The clean cars standards, as amended, can help get us there. Please pass them for the sake of all of us here in Maine.

Gratefully,

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, ME  
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