

Daniel Soley
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To Lynne Cayting
Chief Mobile Sources Section,
Bureau of Air Quality:

My name is Daniel Soley. My wife and I are lifelong residents of this beautiful state. We live in Falmouth. We drive tens of thousands of miles a year for work, recreation, and education.

This past year, we replaced both our cars with fully electric vehicles. We have a share in a solar farm. We have solar panels at our home. We have a fully electric riding mower, water heater, heat, and cooling at our home. We have spent over \$150,000 in new fully electric vehicles this past year alone to make this long term goal a reality. Both of our extended families are almost entirely EV as well - some migrating over 10 years ago.

My family and I purchased these electric vehicles via personal choice. We did not make these choices based on legislation. We were not convinced by a politician selling the idea of vague environmental benefits, or legislation claiming savings per year of \$790. We did not consider oil imports - which apply in much larger part to the electric grid. Like others - we do not trust politicians to speak for the benefit of the people. Especially when the legislation they propose limits personal freedom and fair competition for a non-specific and guesstimate-substantiated greater good.

Instead, we looked at a broad and diverse product line for vehicles, and let the merit of the vehicle, its company, its technology, and its future speak for itself. Merit cannot be legislated. In fact - quite the opposite: when legislation removes the value of merit, competition, and personal choice - the product and the consumer suffers. Our freedom suffers.

I know that the Department of Environmental Protection in Maine does not consider the value of merit, personal choice, fair market competition, and freedom in its proposed legislation. This proposed legislation is likely based on a single environmental goal. In doing so, this legislation has been subject to a tunnel vision mindset. I respect the environmental goals of the DEP. However, as a fully EV household, I implore the DEP to consider the other, far broader, and far more damaging effects if this should pass. Please allow the market to speak for itself - and let merit bring more people to EV - not legislation.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this issue,

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