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Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 11:34 PM
To: Hinkel, Bill <Bill.Hinkel@maine.gov>
Cc: Burke, Ruth A <Ruth.A.Burke@maine.gov>
Subject: BEP question/comment

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Question or Comment

I hope the Board accepts comments on rulemaking via this channel. I write to encourage the Board to not adopt any rule or regulation requiring auto dealers to sell a predetermined percentage of electric vehicles.

History shows us that in the USA, and elsewhere, the best method for meeting a demand is to let the free market determine the outcome. One need only look back on the days of wage and price controls implemented by Nixon in 1971 to realize the futility of centralized, state mandated economic targets.

Aside from the objection rooted in economic philosophy practical considerations also force the Board to not accept these proposals. Maine is large state characterized half a dozen heavily populated urban nodes, with the balance of the population being thinly distributed across rural and wilderness areas. The infrastructure required to support a rapid transition to EVs does not exist today. Creating such an infrastructure will take many years and impose a huge economic burden on Mainers.

