



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

August 25, 2023

Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Attn: Lynne Cayting
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0017

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to express our opposition to the proposed DEP rules: “Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program” and “Chapter 128: Advanced Clean Trucks Program”.

The BEP, operated by unelected bureaucrats, does not have the authority to authorize such drastic changes through routine technical rulemaking. These rules would have monumental economic and quality of life ramifications for Mainers, and rely on significant agency discretion and interpretation. Accordingly, they should be subject to Legislative review.

Authority aside, the proposed California rules have so many issues that their dismissal by the Department should be a foregone conclusion. However, given the deference shown to the analysis of environmental organizations and the State of California, we feel it is necessary to reassert our opposition. There has been a troubling lack of consideration for the true costs of the requirements proposed, and even less for whether they are even realistic (or beneficial) to achieve. The condescension of the arguments made by proponents of the rules, and implicit “we know what is best for you” attitude is one that has become tired.

Republicans are environmental stewards. We support the encouragement of fuel efficient vehicle options for consumers that fit their needs - whatever they may be. We support the generation of cost-effective power that is environmentally conscious and actually capable of meeting the capacity needs these rules would impose. What we do not support is government mandates which limit choice and hurt the Mainers we represent.

These rules go too far. Too fast. We strongly urge you to take the steps necessary to deny the adoption of these proposed rules.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Billy Bob Faulkingham in black ink.

Representative Billy Bob Faulkingham
House Minority Leader

Handwritten signature of Amy B. Arata in blue ink.

Representative Amy Arata
Assistant House Minority Leader

Cc:
Governor Janet Mills
Secretary of State Shenna Bellows
Commissioner Melanie Loyzim