

Dear Madam Chair and DEP board,

In 1970, Harvard biologist George Wald estimated that “civilization will end within 15 or 30 years unless immediate action is taken against problems facing mankind.”

In January 1970, *Life* reported, “Scientists have solid experimental and theoretical evidence to support...the following predictions: In a decade, urban dwellers will have to wear gas masks to survive air pollution...by 1985 air pollution will have reduced the amount of sunlight reaching earth by one half....”

Kenneth Watt warned about a pending Ice Age in a speech. “The world has been chilling sharply for about twenty years,” he declared. “If present trends continue, the world will be about four degrees colder for the global mean temperature in 1990, but eleven degrees colder in the year 2000. This is about twice what it would take to put us into an Ice Age.”

In his 2006 global warming documentary "An Inconvenient Truth," Al Gore predicted that the global sea level could rise as much as 20 feet "in the near future."

For more than half a century, we have heard environmental theories, often stated as facts, and their track record of accuracy is abysmal. Global warming in general, and automobile emissions specifically are just theory still, even though they are treated as fact. There is no factual evidence that reducing emissions will save the world.

The idea that the Maine DEP would put in place a life-altering policy that will dramatically impact the finances of Mainers all over the State and potentially shut down existing businesses based on an environmental theory that emissions are impacting global warming, with no factual proof is gross governmental overreach. Is the Maine government just trying to send most new car sales transactions to New Hampshire? This will hurt new car dealers significantly!

The bottom line is that we the people of Maine plead with you to put US ahead of environmental theories. Wait until the theories are scientifically proven and the true need is known. Wait until the costs and impacts of your decision are known and measurable. The negative effects of your decision will be felt throughout Maine and will last for decades; don't approach it single-mindedly, without regard for all of the facts.

Robert Wessels

South Paris, Maine

The goal of these petitions is to lower emissions...you should not pass this proposal until you can have hard FACTUAL evidence on the true emissions impact that having an electric vehicle brings to the equation.

Everybody talks about the low emissions of driving an EV around

...but how much emissions does it take to create the electricity used in the vehicle?

...how much coal does it take to run your electric vehicle?

...how much energy is burned (emissions) to make the huge steel wind turbine or the or steel solar panel to create the “clean energy?”

...how much energy is burned to make the battery for an EV vs. a gas-powered vehicle? ...according to the NY Times calls out (in a pro-EV article) that manufacturing the EV is much more emissions intensive.

...What environmental impact will it have when all the batteries for these required EV's go bad? This is already happening, and it is a when, not an IF.

...what humanitarian role will this decision have when all of mine is forced to buy electric vehicles... the children that are being forced to mine the rare earth elements necessary for batteries these day will be forced to mine even more.

The real-world implications of this decision will be on Mainers pocketbooks. EV's are more expensive to buy than gas-powered vehicles.

Maine's electricity rates are already 46% higher than the national average, which means we will be paying 46% more for fuel for our EV's.

The cost to replace a battery in an EV is wicked expensive (and bad for the environment).

As demand for electricity goes up, our rates will only go up more.

California has electricity blackouts and people are being asked to not charge their cars, Maine does not currently have either of these problems.

[How Green Are Electric Vehicles? - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](https://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/24/green/article-02.html)