

Breton, Mary B

From: Ruth <ruthphil@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 5:46 AM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Testimony

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Testimony

My name is Ruth Swicker and I am concerned over the financial impact of the ruling proposed that will limit the options people have of purchasing and operating a vehicle that is affordable. Many Mainers commute to earn their living. And many Mainers earn well under 50,000 a year. With the burden of housing already eating up 30 percent of what we earn, operating an affordable vehicle is what keeps people from becoming homeless. EVs are simply not affordable. They are more expensive to purchase and there are not enough choices of all wheel drive and four wheel drive at various price points. Making the argument that EVs are cheaper at the "pump" is not logical because the cost of recharging is based on the cost of electricity. The standard offer is expensive because of the kWh that is comprised of renewable energy. Today there is not enough renewable energy to cover the base load regardless of the price so plugging in our vehicles further taxes that load and is not sustainable.

The logic of discussing the renewable portion of our current supply is because it makes no sense to talk about the environmental impact of driving petrol powered vehicles when we haven't fully met our base load with renewables. All you are doing by plugging in cars, while still supporting base load with natural gas, is virtue signaling at the expense of overtaxed Mainers. This will impoverish thousands. You do not have the right to destroy the finances of Mainers and I do not support this bill.

Sent from my iPhone
make it a great day 😊