

Breton, Mary B

From: Amy Eshoo <amy@maineclimateaction.org>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 4:50 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comments Regarding Proposed Chapter 127-A, Advanced Clean Cars II Program

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To whom it may concern,

Maine Climate Action Now (MCAN) is a coalition of 16 grassroots organizations across Maine concerned with climate justice. While the need to decrease greenhouse gas emissions is imperative for Maine and the world at large to reach its climate goals, we feel that all Mainers should benefit from opportunities arising from the transition to renewable energy, and that any burdens associated with climate adaptation should not fall disproportionately on those experiencing low incomes and who are least responsible for driving the climate crisis.

Transportation is one of the most challenging issues facing many Mainers, especially those living in rural areas where owning a car is a necessity. Many Maine residents in suburban and rural areas are forced into buying inexpensive, inefficient and highly polluting older model ICE cars that come with high maintenance and operational costs. The first generation of EV's has been out of reach for many, but as prices come down and more used EV's hit the market, access to clean, reliable EVs will expand. This will only happen however if manufacturers are incentivized to include Maine in the distribution of lower priced, popular EV models. Without these incentives in place in Maine, these affordable options will go to neighboring states where ACC II quotas are in place. Incentivizing manufacturers to sell more EV's in Maine will also enhance the used EV market where many of Maine's working class residents will be buying their first EV. Many manufacturers will be making only EV's by 2035, so adopting these rules now will mean that Mainers have more and better options, not less choice.

Another important issue for MCAN is the effect of emissions on our most vulnerable. Many of our villages and downtowns are also thoroughfares for car and truck traffic. Localized pollution from these vehicles has an outsized negative impact on those living along or adjacent to our Main Streets, often our most economically challenged or otherwise vulnerable populations. A rapid transition to zero emission vehicles will increase quality of life in our downtowns, while increasing health outcomes and lowering healthcare costs.

Adopting Advanced Clean Car Rules for our state is the right thing for Maine's working poor and other vulnerable communities, while helping the state meet its important emissions reduction goals.

Thank you for your consideration,
[Amy Eshoo](#)
Director, Maine Climate Action Now

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Director

Maine Climate Action NOW!

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[MCAN website](#)

I live and work on unceded land of the Wabanaki, the Arosaguntacook, Abenaki, and Aucocisco and I wish to acknowledge them as rightful owners and stewards of this land.