

Breton, Mary B

From: David von Seggern <vonseg1@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 8:54 AM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Ch. 127-A ACC II (clean cars II rule)

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Greetings Maine Department of Environmental Protection,

I am today commenting on the proposed rule for Ch. 127-A ACC II (Advanced Clean Cars II).

California leads the nation in adopting rules that limit emissions from motor vehicles. Simply put, Maine should follow. I am indeed glad that we have an opportunity to adopt the California rules and stay ahead of the weaker federal standards. In the case of internal combustion engines (ICE), these rules will reduce vehicle pollution in Maine, curb the emission of harmful greenhouse gases, and provide for lesser maintenance over the life of a vehicle. But, more importantly, the rules will hasten the adoption of totally electric vehicles in our state. Every new electric vehicle that replaces an ICE vehicle will lower our air pollution, deter climate change, and decrease the life-cycle price of ownership of a vehicle.

In adopting the California standards, I urge that this rule extend its timeframe to 2035, as has been done in the other New England states. There is no obvious or compelling reason that Maine should not be in lock-step with these other states.

After the continually grim weather news of this summer for the US, with July the hottest month ever measured on our planet, it is evident that we must step up the pace of decarbonizing our transportation sector and moving it towards electric vehicles. This rule is part of a necessary strategy to avoid the catastrophic effects of climate change which are now becoming evident.

David von Seggern
Westbrook, ME