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Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 12:17 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: EV Rules for ME Cars, and Medium/Heavy Trucks

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I am writing this today to give my opinion on forced EV's in our market with California rules. First, I do not believe that the grid is ready, the batteries aren't ready, etc. Maine is not California as you are aware. Let me share a quick experience with a Mustang EV owner from last week. Traveling salesman from CT says he gets max 220 miles on a slow charge. He spends a LOT of time sitting at chargers now vs actually traveling to accounts or doing sales door to door. When his lease is up, the EV goes and he never plans on getting another one. Now lets look at Maine. From Kittery to Ft Kent is a haul! How many times would people have to stop in a snow storm, or hot weather, etc to travel JUST The length of our state? 3 or 4? These are modern times. Not the days of the horse and buggy. Yet here we are being told we will save the planet by doing this. Total hogwash!

I plow snow and haul trailers delivering equipment. On some days, we plow 16 to 18 hours straight. There is a bulk tank we can get fuel from if the power goes out rigged up with a 12 volt battery. 5 minutes fills the tank and off plowing again we go. What if our truck is a mandated EV truck? How long do you think that would last running the heat and wipers full tilt, the plow is electric, defrosters for the mirrors, etc? 1 to 2 hours max is my guess. What are we supposed to do when the battery is dead and the power is out due to downed limbs, wires, etc and a power outage? Not plow? Sit and wait at the cold shop for the power to come on because we have no heat and the truck won't go without a charge? Put a generator in the bed that runs on gas or diesel and continue on? None of this makes any sense. To further make the problem worse is our extremely expensive electricity generation costs which keep going up due to global issues beyond our control. And due to policies made in Augusta mandating Chinese solar arrays and wind mills.

This doesn't begin to address issues as where do you get rid of the EV batteries once the car is junk, wrecked, etc. Where do the raw materials for the battery come from and how are they refined and processed, etc? Also, this drives the cost of the cars up a lot higher than ICE vehicles. This will make it so the poor, new drivers, and those on fixed incomes will not be able to afford basic transportation. Being a rural state, a car or truck is very important for travel. Some rich people who will never have to worry about such issues are pushing this. 150 or so people submitting 2 petitions should not be enough to DESTROY our way of life. If EV's are so wonderful. You wouldn't have to mandate them. Same with medium and heavy trucks. Imagine an EV logging truck! Please do the right thing and not allow out of state interests mandate how we live, work and play. ICE vehicles allow us to live the way we do. Not all of us want to live in cities stacked like rats in apartments that all look the same taking public transportation.

Thanks for your attention in this matter.

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