

Breton, Mary B

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Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 9:12 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: rule 128 comments

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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