An Order to Advance Clean Transportation Solutions for Maine

WHEREAS, Maine has pledged to be carbon neutral by 2045; has committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and by at least 80% by 2050; and Maine’s renewable portfolio standard requires 80% renewable energy by 2030 and a goal of 100% by 2050;

WHEREAS, climate change is already having negative impacts on Maine and, if not addressed, will have devastating effects on the state;

WHEREAS, the transportation sector is vital to Maine’s economy and is also responsible for fifty four percent of greenhouse gas emissions in Maine;

WHEREAS, the Maine Climate Council developed a Climate Action Plan to meet the emissions targets while growing Maine’s economy, with a particular focus on the buildings, infrastructure, transportation and energy sectors, as well as to increase the resiliency of Maine’s communities, industries and people; and

WHEREAS, electrification of the transportation sector has been identified as one of the most effective emission reduction strategies for Maine, electric vehicle adoption has now been prioritized by the federal government, vehicle manufacturers are expanding available models and in some cases stating the intent to no longer sell gas-powered vehicles, and technology advancements are leading to reduced costs;

WHEREAS, the Maine economy can benefit from leading in the advancement of the future of transportation, and emissions reduction in the transportation sector will be maximized through the use of a comprehensive and consistent approach to monitoring and guiding electrification efforts and expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to Me. Const. Art V, Pt I, Secs 1 and 12, do hereby order as follows:
I. POLICY GOAL

The Governor’s Energy Office and the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future shall work closely with the Department of Transportation, the Efficiency Maine Trust, Department of Environmental Protection, and other agencies engaged in electric vehicle advancement, to develop a Clean Transportation Roadmap to 2030 designed to accelerate the widespread adoption of electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and other clean transportation technologies in Maine.

The Clean Transportation Roadmap to 2030 shall identify necessary policies, programs, and regulatory changes needed to meet the state’s electric vehicle and transportation emission reductions goals, including strategic planning, incentive programs, charging infrastructure, utility rate policy, as well as transition and equity considerations.

Additionally, the development of this Roadmap shall include robust stakeholder engagement and allow opportunities for interested parties to participate in the process. This effort aims to maximize emission reduction in the transportation sector to help meet the state’s emission reduction goals and to advance Maine’s economy, while reducing overall transportation costs to Maine people.

In addition to the Roadmap, the Governor’s Office shall work with the Efficiency Maine Trust to recognize leading Maine auto dealers, businesses, local governments, and others who are advancing achievement of Maine’s clean transportation targets.

II. Clean Transportation Roadmap to 2030

The GEO and GOPIF shall coordinate with other state agencies engaged in electric vehicle advancement to develop and implement a Clean Transportation Roadmap to 2030 to meet the state’s EV and transportation emission reduction goals. This plan shall be delivered to the Governor by December 31, 2021 and shall consider topic areas including, but not limited to:

A. Electric Vehicle Market Review and Maine Acceleration
B. Charging Infrastructure Expansion
C. Electricity, Grid, and Utility Impacts

III. Governor’s Clean Vehicle Recognition Program

This year, the Governor’s Office will work with the Efficiency Maine Trust to launch a Governor’s clean vehicle recognition program. This program will recognize, through events and ongoing promotion, private and public sector clean vehicle achievement in areas including vehicle sales, charging infrastructure, fleet conversions, and educational programming.

IV. Effective Date

The effective date of this order is March 30, 2021.

Janet T. Mills
Governor