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Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:22 AM
To: Hinkel, Bill <Bill.Hinkel@maine.gov>
Subject: Electric Vehicle mandates & NRCM testimony

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Dear BEP,

The NRCM claims that all alternatives to electric vehicles have been evaluated. That is not true. They are aware of and clearly suppressing information regarding a transportation system called SkyWay by MicroRail. This system is highly relevant because it exceeds the performance and climate standards of all electric cars with its maglev drive systems. It is not dependent on risky batteries and puts a vehicle wherever you are on-demand 365 days a year and 24 hours each day. The NRCM can't legitimately sponsor electric vehicle without first studying this option and suppressing information about its exceptional performance.

Although SkyWay is still a couple of years from realization due to illegal interference from Maine DOT, it will offer a safer and more complete alternative to the current options at a much, much lower cost. In fact, most people will pay nothing for using this system. That's a far better option than the \$40,000 – 50,000 cost of a standard EV.

I urge you to consider the hazards of EV's and mandate that the SkyWay system capabilities be evaluated before any decisions are made re: mandatory use of EV's.

I am willing to provide extensive documentation of this system. As stated, it provides a problem free mode of transportation which has many advantages over EV's.

Batteries

Battery technologies are changing rapidly. The Lithium batteries currently used in EV's will soon be obsolete and replaced by non-metallic easily recycleable and substantially less expensive than those in current use.

The recycling of Li batteries poses such a risk as to exceed any current standards for safe disposal. This is not a time to experiment with early adoption of the current tech which is known to spontaneously combust.

I urge DEP/BEP to delay adoption of any regulations that result in additional hazards and costs for Maine residents. Far too many citizens struggle financially. For their sakes, we need to be financially astute.

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