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To: DEP Rule Comments; patricia barber
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program

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To Maine DEP regarding Chapter 127-A Advanced Clean Cars II Program
From Patty Barber Hiram Maine

As a resident of rural Hiram Maine, I am very much opposed to the proposal to adopt California standards for electric vehicles sold in Maine.

Electric vehicles can be an option for some people but to mandate manufacturers to sell a certain percentage of EVs while being penalized for selling gas powered engines just isnt feasible for Maine. The following reasons:

- rural Mainers can hardly afford used gas-powered cars and trucks, which are the cheapest vehicle option available. There is no way rural and poor Mainers could even begin to afford EVs
 - many Mainers live hours from large towns and cities. The chance of the evs losing power before they can get to their destination, let alone a charging station is great. Running out of gas is hard enough, but at least someone can bring you a can of fuel, which could never happen with evs. Add snow and cold to that equation and it becomes a deadly situation.
 - I know from personal experience that evs are terrible climbing hills in the snow. Just try to power up a slick road elevation in one. The engine shuts down, locks up and then everything you learned about driving up or backing/sliding back down to safety on a snow covered hill is moot. An incredibly dangerous situation.
 - The new gas efficient cars are just as good or better then evs. Last year I bought a brand new Nissan Versa, \$18,000. I average 44 miles/gallon gas. And the claim that "EVs are more fun to drive"??What the heck do they mean? My 5 speed, manual, brand new Versa is the most fun car I have ever driven.
 - EVs are NOT green. They utilize toxic batteries that exploit poor countries and citizens to mine the rare minerals, and are incredibly toxic to dispose of.
- Most electricity is still produced with fossil fuels and environmentally and socially devastating hydropower. The footprint of electricity from start to car is anything but climate protective, and battery disposal will be the new nuclear fuel disposal issue for our environment.
- We should NOT be striving for energy savings by adding more cars to more roads. The absolute best strategy for protecting the climate is by using LESS electricity and fuel, regardless of how it is produced.
 - The irrefutable transportation champion for climate protection and fuel efficiency is rail-based mass transit. We should be investing in our railroads and rail transit. This is especially true for rural communities along train routes between larger population centers. We could solve so many of our transportation issues by investing in rail, not by pushing more cars and more electricity production.

Overall, this proposal would be devastating for many Mainers. Pleaser do NOT adopt the stricter EV standards.

Thank you,
Patty Barber
Hiram ME

