

Governor Phil Murphy  
Office of the Governor  
125 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy:

April 12, 2023

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write to thank you and your administration for commencing stakeholder engagement on the Advanced Clean Cars II (ACC II) regulation as well as to urge you to act now to begin a formal rulemaking process in order to adopt the ACC II rule in New Jersey by December 2023. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) must start a formal stakeholder process by proposing these regulations this spring in order to guarantee adoption this calendar year. Adoption of ACC II in 2023 is essential for your Administration to achieve its goal of cutting climate pollutants by 50% by 2030, keep up with nearly every other Clean Car state and ensure New Jersey doesn't lose another model year as part of this program.

ACC II, if adopted, will take the state's already growing zero-emission vehicle market and robust motor vehicle emission control rules and augment them to meet more aggressive tailpipe emissions standards in order to ramp up to 100% zero-emission vehicles. The transportation sector is the largest source of climate-harming pollution in New Jersey, generating roughly 40% of our climate pollutants. Within the transportation sector, more than 70% of climate pollution comes from passenger cars and trucks. A key strategy to decarbonize this sector is accelerating the transition to a zero-emission vehicle fleet. The [NJDEP 80 x 50 report from October 2020](#) clearly stated that New Jersey needed to move to require 100% of light-duty vehicle sales to electric and plug-ins by 2035. Final Our best mechanism for accelerating this transition is adopting the ACC II regulations this calendar year.

Acting now to rapidly accelerate the shift to a clean transportation sector will result in a plethora of public health and subsequent economic benefits in New Jersey. The American Lung Association's [Zeroing on Healthy Air](#) report found that from 2020 to 2050, transitioning to zero-emission transportation across the country and cleaner electricity could result in \$43.6 billion in public health benefits for the state, 3,960 avoided premature deaths, 92,400 avoided asthma attacks, and 464,000 avoided lost workdays. [A majority of New Jerseyans](#) live in counties that do not meet federal EPA clean air standards for ozone. Communities of color and low-wealth communities bear an especially unfair burden of fuel costs and [harmful air pollution](#) due to decades of [systematic marginalization](#). Finally, according to a recently released [Energy Innovation](#) report, NJ could reap significant economic benefits from the rule, including more than \$682 in annual household cost savings, nearly 31,000 avoided lost workdays by 2050, and 368 avoided premature deaths by 2050.

Adopting the ACC II rule in New Jersey will ensure that our residents can access the zero-emission vehicles they want within our state while solidifying New Jersey's role as a climate leader. As was made evident during NJDEP's recent stakeholder meeting, New Jerseyans want the ACC II rule and they want it adopted in full, before the end of this year. This is a critical moment for New Jersey to join the wave of states moving towards a clean transportation future, and ensure that our state can access the full range of economic and public health benefits of the transition. [Washington, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia, Massachusetts and New York](#) adopted these regulations in 2022. Currently, Delaware, Connecticut, Maryland, Maine and Rhode Island are moving forward with adoption in 2023 in addition to other states throughout the country.

Failure to adopt in 2023 would mean that by 2030, there will be more than 90,500 fewer zero emission vehicles on New Jersey's roads. Delaying adoption would deprive residents of the ZEVs they would otherwise be able to acquire and the many important co-benefits ACC II provides – such as improved

health, air quality, climate safety, and financial savings. Furthermore, since the majority of New Jerseyans – particularly low-income drivers – purchase used vehicles, a delay in the rule means there are fewer clean, affordable vehicles available for drivers in the secondary market.

As we urge you to adopt ACCII, we also strongly urge the State to develop a comprehensive just transition plan so no workers and communities are left behind as we move any policy forward that will reduce GHG and put us on track for a clean energy future.

Given the many benefits ACC II will bring to New Jersey, adopting ACC II should be a top priority for the state in 2023 and for NJDEP even if it means other rules are slightly delayed because of the importance of proposing and adopting ACC II this calendar year.

We strongly urge NJDEP to propose the regulation this spring in the New Jersey Register by this May to ensure adoption of the regulation by December. To maintain New Jersey's place as a climate leader and to maximize the benefits this rule offers, the state should act now to adopt ACC II.

Sincerely,

Action Together New Jersey  
AFT New Jersey  
Association of NJ Environmental Commissions (ANJEC)  
BlueWaveNJ  
Central Jersey Coalition Against Endless War  
Ceres  
Ciel Power LLC  
Clean Water Action  
Divest NJ  
ECOS  
Environment New Jersey  
Environmental Defense Fund  
Expect Moore Consulting LLC  
Fair Share Housing Center  
GDB Strategic Solutions LLC  
GreenFaith  
Green Wave  
Greenleaf Painters LLC  
Health Care Without Harm  
Health Professionals and Allied Employees (HPAE)  
Indivisible Highland Park  
Isles  
Jersey Renews Coalition  
Latino Institute, Inc.  
Make the Road New Jersey  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Newark Science & Sustainability  
New Jersey Citizen Action  
New Jersey Highlands Coalition  
New Jersey League of Conservation Voters  
New Jersey Policy Perspective  
New Jersey Public Interest Research Group  
New Jersey Sierra Club

New Jersey Sustainable Business Council  
New Jersey Black Issues Convention  
New Jersey State Industrial Union Council  
New Jersey Work Environment Council  
New Jersey Working Families Party  
New Labor  
Nuvo Energy Ventures  
Offshore Power LLC  
Statewide Education Organizing Committee  
Solar Landscape  
SRI Investing  
The Nature Conservancy, New Jersey  
Tri-State Transportation Campaign  
Unitarian Universalist FaithAction NJ  
Vote Solar

Cc:

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Elspeth Hans, Associate Counsel  
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