A picture containing logo

Description automatically generated

April 25, 2022

Rachel Assink

Rulemaking Lead

State of Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE)

300 Desmond Drive SE,

Lacey, WA 98503

**Re: Chapter 173-424 WAC, Clean Fuels Program Rule**

Dear Rachel Assink,

Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power & Light (WAIPL) is very supportive of Washington’s Clean Fuel Standard and would like to see it implemented with the level of urgency called for by the moral crisis that is the climate crisis.

On behalf of our network of over 10,000 people of faith and 350 congregations in Washington State, we ask that the rule be as strong as possible to align with our values of stewardship, responsibility, and justice for all of God’s creation. We highly recommend that the rule require a 20% reduction in carbon intensity of fuels to be achieved by 2034.

Time is of the essence. Today’s children and future generations are looking to us for meaningful climate action. In response to advocacy in part by the faith community, the Legislature granted the Department of Ecology the authority to set this trajectory. We are now calling on you to be ambitious in implementation of our clean fuel standard to achieve the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions to which Washington has committed and on which our future depends.

When we speak with faith community members about climate change, a common concern is that we aren’t moving fast enough. People are hearing the IPCC say that the next few years are critical. Our neighboring states are looking toward clean fuel goals by 2030. It is imperative that Washington follow suit and set our timeline to be the earliest date allowed in the law. We have faith that Washington can and will meet these goals with our gifts of innovation and dedication to stewardship. Please demonstrate our state’s commitment to a clean energy future by setting the rule at a 20% reduction in carbon intensity by 2034.

Thank you for your leadership, and for putting us on a path to cleaner fuels and healthier communities!

Sincerely,

A picture containing text

Description automatically generated

Jessica Zimmerle

Program & Outreach Director

Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power & Light