

Michael Schmitz

Dear Mr. Adam Saul, All non solids like exhaust, smoke, gases that rise upward are separated by nature naturally so the sun's rays can warm earth to grow plants for food & oxygen so all species can survive. If this didn't happen then this planet earth would have been dead for million's of years. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of the Department of Ecology (Ecology) adopting Advanced Clean Cars II (ACCI), the Heavy-Duty Omnibus Low NOx rule, and the fleet reporting requirement this year in Washington. These rules are critical to reduce air pollution, improve public health, protect frontline communities, and increase access to the benefits of electricity as a transportation fuel. Over four million people in Washington live or work near diesel exhaust, and Black people, Indigenous people, People of Color and low-income people are disproportionately burdened by polluted air. Exposure to toxic tailpipe pollution such as NOx, Particulate Matter (PM), and Ozone is linked to higher rates of premature death, cancer, heart disease, and breathing problems like asthma in kids and adults. On top of the climate benefits, adopting ACCI allows zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) to be more accessible and affordable for consumers and saves them money in fuel and maintenance with the typical cost of electricity for charging an EV equivalent to \$1 per gallon of gasoline. In addition to ACCI, the Heavy-Duty Omnibus Low NOx rule and the fleet reporting requirement will help Washington experience statewide health benefits and identify trucking operations that would provide the greatest relief in air pollution exposure to overburdened communities. I am counting on Ecology to lead the transition into an all-electric future and by doing so, ensure an equitable and just transportation future for Washington! I strongly support the proposed Clean Vehicles Program rule and thank Ecology for its hard work. Sincerely, Michael Schmitz 38 N Nemah Rd South Bend, WA 98586