

Coleen Anderson

Dear Ms. Nikki Harris,

My name is Coleen Anderson, and I live in Yakima, located in Legislative District 4. Thank you for the opportunity to voice strong support of the updates to the Clean Truck Rules. Washington's leadership on clean transportation is not just important—it's essential. I appreciate the Department of Ecology's commitment to cleaner air and healthier communities through the implementation of the Advanced Clean Truck (ACT) program and the Heavy-Duty Omnibus Low NOx (HDO) rule. These policies are key to reducing dangerous diesel pollution across our state.

Right now, these commonsense protections are under threat. A well-funded national campaign, backed by trucking industry lobbyists and major manufacturers, is working hard to repeal or delay rules like ACT and HDO. But the cost of delay is far too high. Just a two-year postponement could saddle our communities with \$67.6 to \$83.7 million in additional health impacts.

Since 1990, diesel emissions in Yakima have increased twofold. The Department of Ecology has recognized that East Yakima, particularly the area along I-82, experiences some of the highest rates of asthma and chronic respiratory illness in the state, along with life expectancy in the bottom 10th percentile. Transportation remains the leading contributor to climate pollution.

For families like mine, the stakes are personal. My son suffers from asthma, and there are days when simply breathing becomes a struggle. Diesel pollution makes this worse. It disproportionately harms vulnerable groups—especially children, low-income families, and communities of color who are already burdened with higher levels of toxic emissions.

Washington has the chance to lead the way by standing firm against corporate pressure and keeping our clean air commitments. The ACT and HDO rules are vital not only for meeting our climate goals but for protecting public health, especially in frontline communities. I urge you to support Ecology's proposed rules without delay. We must not let polluters roll back the progress we've made. The future of our children—and our air—depends on bold action now.

Thank you for your leadership and resolve.

Coleen L. Anderson