

Ed Staub and Sons Petroleum (Jason Cole)

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to offer comments on the State's clean transportation policy initiatives. As a professional active in Washington's fuel and transportation sector, I strongly support policies that enable the state to reduce emissions while ensuring the reliability, affordability, and economic vitality of our transportation networks.

While the adoption of new technologies merits thoughtful consideration, it is equally important not to overlook the ongoing advancements and significant benefits of proven energy sources such as cleaner-burning diesel and hydrogen fuels. These fuels provide real and measurable emission reductions while harnessing existing infrastructure, minimizing supply chain risks, and supporting family-wage jobs in Washington.

Diesel technology in particular has continued to evolve. Today's cleaner-burning diesel engines and renewable diesel fuels deliver meaningful emissions improvements compared to older fleets, while maintaining the performance and dependability industries rely on. Additionally, simply requiring diesel sold in the state to include a modest proportion of biodiesel or renewable diesel could greatly reduce particulate and greenhouse gas emissions from existing equipment without any disruption to operations or infrastructure.

Hydrogen-powered vehicles are likewise emerging as a practical low-carbon solution, particularly for heavier-duty applications where range, payload, and fueling speed are critical.

Conversely, a policy focus that over-prioritizes electric truck adoption risks straining electrical infrastructure, creating supply bottlenecks, and imposing costs on businesses and public agencies—especially in rural and underserved areas where electric charging options may be limited for years to come.

I urge the Department of Ecology to continue supporting the responsible use and development of cleaner-burning diesel and liquid hydrogen fuels alongside other alternatives. By keeping all practical options on the table, Washington can achieve its emissions goals without sacrificing transportation reliability, cost-effectiveness, or equity for industries and communities reliant on liquid fuel supply chains.

Thank you for considering these comments as you shape Washington's clean transport future.

Sincerely,

Jason Cole