

Meridee Kortan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions to Chapter 173-423, Washington's Clean Vehicles Program rule. I appreciate Washington state's vehicle emission standards because I know they help reduce carbon emissions, protect clean air, and reduce the incidence of cancer, asthma, heart disease, and other devastating ailments.

I strongly support the amendments in this rulemaking, because they provide Washington with a backstop to protect against increased on-road pollution, pending litigation. The litigation is necessary to defend against the federal administration's illegal actions—hopefully, this litigation will succeed, but we need to be prepared in case it fails.

The expanded fleet reporting requirements proposed will further support Washington's continued movement forward on transportation. Ultimately, stronger vehicle emission standards will protect public health, resulting in fewer community members being put at risk for respiratory and cardiovascular disease.

If the ongoing litigation succeeds in proving the illegality of recent federal actions, the current, more protective standards should be reinstated as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your work to establish standards that protect Washington's environmental and public health.