Members and Commissioners: Thank you for this opportunity to make a public comment.

I am Ann McCartney, Co-chair of New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light. I am here as a person of conscience to speak on behalf of our community, our state and future generations that depend on us for their quality of life.

I am asking you to adopt the Clean Cars and Trucks II standards proposed by the NM Environment Department. And to adopt them in full to improve our air quality and the lives of New Mexicans. We all know that air pollution from cars impacts health – carbon monoxide from vehicle exhaust inhalation is a known killer. The nitrous oxide and particulate matter that are daily emitted from internal combustion vehicles are contribute significantly to poor air quality and negative health impacts especially in low income and communities of color.

A recent study finds that cars and light duty trucks make up 90% of all our road vehicles and emit 67% of total greenhouse gas emissions – this impact is something you have the power to change by adopting the proposed standards in full.

The ACCII standards would make electric vehicles more available and ultimately more affordable for New Mexicans. As more EVs come on line there will be more used EVs available of resale and purchase. In addition, EV purchasers in NM currently can qualify for a rebate for up to $2,500 for an EV charger and installation. Now is the time to act to make EVs a reality for more people in our state.

My family has purchased an electric vehicle and solar panels – it has made a significant difference not only in the air we breathe but to our budget. Not only are we not subjected to the fumes at gas stations, we have also saved significantly on fuel and maintenance costs. We sincerely and deeply would like this opportunity to be available for many more New Mexicans – increasing the supply, along with the other in place incentives, will do that.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from our transportation sector make these standards among the most effective climate policies NM could adopt. I repeat, full adoption of the ACC II standards is one of the most effective climate policies NM could adopt. As the Environmental Improvement Board and the Air Quality Board, please take it to heart that is one of the biggest policy steps you can take as members and commissioners to significantly improve the lives of New Mexicans and give our state a clear path forward for cleaner air and better health.