Public Comment Advanced Clean Cars II and Advanced Clean Trucks

Hello Members and Commissioners,

My name is Michael Kenney. I am a resident of Socorro, New Mexico and I work on clean energy challenges across the southwest. I appreciate you all providing me with this opportunity to speak about my support for the adoption of the advanced clean car two and advanced clean truck rules. These rules should be adopted so that New Mexicans can benefit from increasing EV and PHEV sales across the state.

These rules will make it easier for residents to buy PHEV and EVs. I had to wait months for a new plug-in hybrid EV last year when I took the plunge. This is not practical for most residents who cannot wait for a car to become available, new or used. New Mexico needs to make it easier for consumers to buy these vehicles in-state, which these rules will do.

In addition, I am concerned about the continued health impacts from air pollution from combustion vehicles and the long term impacts to New Mexico’s climate from their carbon emissions. In Socorro, essentially our whole town lies along I-25. All day we have cars and trucks motoring up and down the interstate spewing air pollution through the town. Increasing EV adoption and therefore having more EVs on our highways will lead to health and societal benefits for the state by reducing air pollution and climate impacts. I was very happy to see that two of the state-funded DC fast chargers just became active in our town plaza. Greater adoption of EVs statewide and locally will hopefully lead to more investments like this in our town. It encourages not only locals but those traveling through to stop and visit our shops and restaurants, bringing economic opportunities to our area.

For a city that is experiencing significant economic, environmental, and housing burdens, these rules represent one pathway to making life better for its residents in the near term and long term. So please adopt the clean cars and trucks rules and bring the economic and health benefits to Socorro and all of New Mexico. Thank you.