

Advanced Energy United

Members & Commissioners,

My name is Michael Barrio, Senior Principal at Advanced Energy United. Advanced Energy United is a national trade organization that represents over one hundred companies across the energy landscape - utility-scale generators, large energy buyers, vehicle and appliance manufacturers and tech solution providers. Today, I'm here to support the proposed mandate for electric vehicles (EVs) in New Mexico, and acknowledge some concerns raised about this initiative.

New Mexico is at the forefront of an exciting transition. Our state's EV movement is just beginning, offering a unique opportunity to integrate innovative technologies for the benefit of all New Mexicans. The implementation of the Advanced Clean Cars and Trucks standards is a vital step in this journey. While some view EVs as a luxury only accessible to the wealthy, the landscape is rapidly evolving. Affordable models are emerging and the secondary market is growing, making EVs accessible to a wider demographic.

The economic argument for EVs is compelling. Electric vehicles offer significant savings in fuel and maintenance, debunking the misconception that they are prohibitively expensive. The stability of electricity prices compared to the volatile nature of gasoline costs further strengthens this argument. Additionally, federal tax credits available for EVs make them an even more attractive option for New Mexicans.

Federal and state investments are rapidly enhancing the EV charging infrastructure across New Mexico. Tech advancements in EVs are leading to longer ranges and faster charging times, increasing their practicality for everyday use. The wide-scale adoption of EVs also promises to reduce electricity rates for all, by encouraging charging during off-peak hours and making more efficient use of the grid.

The adoption of robust vehicle standards, such as those proposed, will not only benefit the environment and public health but also drive economic growth and job creation. By setting a clear direction for the automotive industry, these standards can stimulate investments and innovation in the clean transportation sector.

In closing, the adoption of the Advanced Clean Cars and Trucks standards is a crucial step towards a sustainable and equitable transportation future for New Mexico. While the transition to EVs presents challenges, these are outweighed by the long-term benefits of sustainable transportation, economic resilience, public health, and environmental protection. Thoughtful policies and continued technological advancements can ensure that the benefits of this transition are equitably distributed. We strongly support ACC II & ACT rule adoption in New Mexico.

Thank you.

Michael Barrio (he/him)
Senior Principal
Advanced Energy United

Transforming Policy. Expanding Markets.

e: mbarrio@advancedenergyunited.org

o: 202.380.1950 x3158 m: 310.869.5311

Mailing Address: 1801 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 410, Washington, D.C. 20006

www.AdvancedEnergyUnited.org @AdvEnergyUnited