

Lari Tiller Howell

Regarding the current hearing on the Advanced Clean Car and Truck Rules with the Environmental Improvement Board and ABQ-Bernco Air Quality Control Commission. Recently I looked out over the valley that Albuquerque is nestled into and saw the brown murky haze of smog. I grew up in Southern California and Los Angeles at a time when soot-blackened skies were the norm. We thought smog was necessary if we wanted to have the personal transportation of the American dream. I went to college at a place near some mountains hidden in that smog. The air felt gritty and tasted metallic.

It has taken way too long for Americans to get fed up enough to want to clean up our air. And we can do it without too much of a personal sacrifice.

I have solar panels on my roof ready to plug in my new EV to drive cleanly around New Mexico. Various power companies around the state are offering off-hour plans similar to PNM's/EV rate of 3¢/kwh if I need it on cloudy days. The only thing that is missing from my ability to purchase an EV is the upfront price. The advanced clean cars and trucks program would enable me to have a lifestyle that does not intrude upon my ethics.

We need this now as our forests are burning, and our farm workers are collapsing from the heat contributed to by fossil fuel burning vehicles.

The Advanced Clean Cars and Trucks standards are an important step we can take now to ensure that when we are all ready to buy there will be more affordable, clean, electric cars and trucks for people to choose from.

I want Zero Emissions Vehicles to be the norm for the sake our budgets, our air quality, the health of our children and our climate.

Thank you.