

# Eleanor Smith

Yaa'at'eeh Abini (Good morning) Commissioners,

My name is Eleanor Smith, my Dine' clans are: I was born of the Táchii'nii clan, Red Running into the water, and born for the Kinyaa'aanii clan, my maternal grandfathers are of the Chíshíi clan, or Chiricahua Apache, and my paternal grandparents are of the Áshjìhí or Salt Clan. I am a Community Organizer with To Nizhóní Aní (Sacred Water Speaks), a Dine' grassroots environmental organization that was born to defend and protect our Mother Earth and our precious water on the Navajo Reservation. I am full support of New Mexico's Clean Cars and Trucks Standards.

As an Indigenous Dine', it is an inherent cultural teaching for us to always defend, protect, and care for Nihima' Nahasdzáán, our Mother Earth. As you may know, our Navajo Reservation has been decimated by the fossil fuel industries since the inception of our Navajo Tribal Government, which was established by the Federal Government as a mechanism to approve contracts for the extraction of oil, gas, coal, uranium, and other fossil fuels. Now that Climate Change is forcing these industries to change to cleaner and low or carbon-free energy sources and has forced the shut-down of coal power plants on or near our reservation, it is so nice to see clear blue skies again without the grey and brown haze over our horizons for more than a forty miles radius of these power plants for decades.

As an Indigenous mother and grandmother, I am concerned about my children and grandchildren's future with the increased heating of our Mother Earth, so we need to create and use energy sources that are cleaner/green, carbon-free, sustainable, and renewable. The New Mexico Clean Cars and Trucks Standards is a great step in this direction. Ahxéhee', Thank you.

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