Hayley Hathaway

Hello, my name is Hayley Hathaway. I am a student at New Mexico Highlands University, working toward my Master of Social Work degree. I am also person of faith and work with New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light. I joined the two public hearings today to give public comment but there was not enough time to hear everyone, so I hope that these written remarks are considered.

I am urging you to adopt the Advanced Clean Cars II and Advanced Clean Trucks standards in full and as soon as possible.

As social worker who is dedicated to the health and well-being of our communities most in need, I think a lot about how public policies can improve our collective well-being. Good policies can also help us get to where we need to be. The Clean Vehicles rules on the table today is a good policy: simple, cost-effective, good for our planet, and good for the people living here too.

I rent a home in the middle of Albuquerque. I have seen with my eyes and felt in my throat what the reports say: that we have some of the worst air pollution in the country.

It's even worse for low-income, Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities that live closer than me to transportation routes.

Poor air quality, impacted by vehicle pollution and tailpipe emissions, are making us sick—and are contributing to the climate crisis.

The new rules are one of the most effective climate policies New Mexico could adopt. They would create jobs, save us money, and make the state healthier.

And no, this does not mean everyone will need to go out and buy an Electric Vehicle. Some of the other testimonies made it seem like this rule will force people to go out a buy a new car. Instead, this is a rule that would make it more accessible for everyone, and for people like me, who wants to buy a zero-emission vehicle but can't find an affordable used one yet, to buy one in the future.

These standards could bring big health, economic, and climate benefits. As a social worker and an advocate, I feel like I do my part to make a positive impact, but it's going to take rules like this to make the impact we need on the scale we need and on the timeline we need. Please adopt the standards in full as soon as you can. Thank you.