

# Heather Karlson

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

I strongly support the Advanced Clean Cars and Advanced Clean Truck Rules for New Mexico.

This is a powerful opportunity for New Mexico to not only act on climate change, but improve the health and economy of our state.

I drive an EV, which I have owned for almost three years, and I find it to be easier and cheaper to maintain and drive than a gas car. I have driven it across the country to both coasts multiple times, which has saved me a lot of money and also has had a much smaller climate impact than flying or driving a gas car to visit family.

My husband also drives an EV – a 2013 Nissan Leaf with a 70 mile range – which he has driven locally for more than 10 years at very low cost.

All New Mexicans deserve to be able to drive EV's. In contrast to one of the concerns expressed during this hearing, EV's actually help to PROVIDE transportation security. Prices of most new EV's are now lower than those of average gas powered vehicles. Used EV's are also available and are affordable. EV's can be charged on any regular 110 outlet for reasonable amounts of daily driving, and can easily be charged fully overnight on a 240 outlet like those used for clothes dryers or air conditioners. Costs to run and maintain EV's are dramatically lower than their gas counterparts. These rules will make EV's more available to everyone who wants one.

The existing charging networks work well, and new fast chargers are rapidly being added across the state and across the country.

As the networks and availability of EV's continues to improve, more and more people will be eager to buy these cars, both new and used, which will move us quickly into the needed energy transition.

I urge you to adopt these rules.

Thank you.