

Clara Sims

My name is Clara Sims and I am writing today to urge the Board to take action to address the climate crisis and our worsening air quality by reducing fossil-fueled vehicle emissions with the adoption of Advanced Clean Car and Truck Standards this year.

Moving as quickly as possible to adopt these standards is imperative. Transportation pollution is a public health crisis, and it worsens health problems for the most vulnerable New Mexicans, including lower-income communities, communities of color, children, elders, and anyone with respiratory conditions like asthma.

Our moral obligation as citizens and leaders is to help protect the most vulnerable among us and it is in this spirit that I urge the Environmental Improvement Board to build on the first set of Clean Cars standards passed in May 2022 by adopting the Advanced Clean Cars, Advanced Clean Trucks, and Heavy-duty Low NOx Omnibus standards. These standards would expand zero-emission vehicle use across New Mexico, help act on climate change, reduce air pollution that makes us sick, and open new doors to economic opportunities for New Mexicans. Advanced Clean Cars standards will make it easier for all New Mexicans to replace their dirty, polluting cars with low or zero-emission vehicles and improve air quality in our most impacted neighborhoods. Advanced Clean Trucks will increase the number of electric buses, pickup trucks, delivery trucks, and semi-trucks on our roads, helping to transform the freight industry to benefit our communities, especially those most harmed by air pollution. Heavy-duty Low NOx Omnibus standards will require new diesel trucks to meet engine standards that result in less harmful pollution.

Please help do your part to protect our air quality and climate by adopting the Advanced Clean Car and Truck standards this year. Thank you for the opportunity to make my voice heard and for your leadership.