

May 12, 2020 Chair Mary Nichols California Air Resources Board (CARB) Sacramento, CA. 95814

RE: Advanced Clean Truck Rule (ACT)- support

Dear Chair Nichols,

Environment California is a state based environmental organization working for clean air, clean water and protecting beautiful places. For years, we have worked to reduce air pollution from our transportation.

For decades we have known the health impacts of diesel trucks and buses. And for the past 20 years we have seen that transportation is the largest greenhouse gas polluter in California. By approving the Advanced Clean Truck (ACT) rule, we can clean the air and reduce some of the worst impacts of climate change.

We should use the COVID-19 pandemic as a chance to rethink our current addiction to fossil fuels. For a few days the world saw what clean air really looked like. When the dirty trucks and cars did not move the air was very very clean. That clean air should be our guidestar moving forward. Now, some in the fossil fuel industry will try to use this pandemic as an excuse to roll back existing clean air and climate change laws. Nothing could be more wrong headed. We need to double down on our clean air and climate change goals and reimagine what is possible.

One-third of all Americans live in areas that suffered through at least 100 days of poor air quality due to air pollution in 2018, according to a <u>new report</u> by Environment America Research & Policy Center, Frontier Group and U.S. PIRG Education Fund. Statistics from 2018 represent the most recent data available. <u>Air pollution</u> increases the risk of premature death, asthma attacks and other adverse health impacts. Recent data has shown that air pollution increases the health risks caused by COVID-19. By strengthening the ACT rule, CARB's new proposal nearly doubles reductions of NOx and PM2.5.

Transportation is now America's <u>number one source</u> of global warming pollution, with greenhouse emissions from cars, trucks, buses and other vehicles surpassing every other source. We simply can't solve global warming without changing how Americans get around.

The challenge is critical. Our transportation system is not only America's biggest source of carbon pollution, but also one of the biggest sources in the world. Our country's cars, trucks, trains and other vehicles emit more carbon dioxide than the entire economy of any single country other than China and India.

With renewable energy sources for generating electricity expanding rapidly, reducing pollution from our transportation system is the next major hurdle we must overcome in order to meet our commitment under the Paris Climate Agreement.

We can do it. We can not only reduce but virtually eliminate transportation pollution. We have the technology and policy know-how.

For decades, our network and other environmentalists have backed policies that promote efficient electric vehicles, and we're starting to see results. Today, affordable, efficient, long-range electric vehicles are hitting the streets in record numbers, and better vehicles are coming online all the time.

However, to meet our commitments under Paris and get to zero-carbon transportation by mid-century, we need to do more.

The ACT rule is a great step in the right direction. We strongly urge you to adopt this rule

Respectfully,

Dan Jacobson

Director.