

December 9, 2019

Mary Nichols, Chair

California Air Resources Board

1001 I Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: The Advanced Clean Trucks standard needs to be stronger**

Dear Chair Nichols and Members of the Board,

We recommend strengthening the proposed Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) standard. We endorse the analysis by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) that projects only 4% of trucks on California roads will be zero-emission by 2030 according to this standard.  We join organizations calling for a more ambitious standard for 15 percent on-the-road zero-emission trucks by 2030. This is needed to take the climate crisis seriously along with environmental injustice resulting from truck exhaust.

We understand air pollution in Ventura County is generally near Highway 101 and low-income neighborhoods are polluted by heavy traffic of diesel trucks. Many who live in those neighborhoods probably don’t have enough money to go to the doctor. We have heard that the old polluting trucks will be sold in Mexico. That is an unacceptable failure to reduce emissions globally and exposes people of Mexico to pollution.

Here is a solution: With the number of unhoused people in our county continuing to climb, we suggest a truck buy-back program and funding for simple conversions to Truck-Houses for unhoused people. Governments should make places to park the Truck-Houses near bus routes, with space for a community garden, and a source of wholesome reasonably priced food. If the ACT standard doesn’t take polluting trucks *off all roads* it is not making enough difference to reverse climate change.  Creating low-low income housing near resources that minimize VMT furthers the climate goals.

Bottom line, the ACT standard must meet the recommendations of the Union of Concerned Scientists.

Sincerely,

Jan Dietrick, MPH

350 Ventura County Climate Hub Policy Team