

Connecticut Department of

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

January 25, 2012

California Air Resources Board Clerk of the Board, Air Resources Board 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Re: "LEV III" Amendments to the California Greenhouse Gas and Criteria Pollutant Exhaust and Evaporative Emission Standards and 2012 Amendments to the Zero Emission Vehicle Regulation

Dear Board Members:

The State of Connecticut strongly supports the Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) and Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) program amendments as revised to reflect consensus among large-volume automobile manufacturers, the Section 177 states, and staff of the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Connecticut appreciates California's unique authority to regulate motor vehicle tailpipe emissions under the federal Clean Air Act, as well as the role of states that have adopted California's standards, and we have long supported California in maintaining its unique authority.

California's promotion of low-emission and zero-emission vehicle technologies through its vehicle regulations fits well with the transformation now underway in Connecticut as we strive to create a clean vehicle infrastructure for the 21st Century. Connecticut's Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council has set an ambitious goal to have 25,000 electric vehicles in the state by 2020. With that goal in mind, Connecticut has worked with California, the auto manufacturers, and the rest of the Section 177 states to develop a sustainable and practical clean car program that sets achievable targets while also fostering the deployment of advanced technology vehicles in our region. These regulations will drive innovation, and produce new technologies and cleaner vehicles that benefit California and all of the Section 177 states. These new vehicles, in turn, will help clean our air, reduce our dependence on foreign sources of energy, and build the domestic capacity to produce the next generation of vehicle technology.

For all these reasons, Connecticut strongly supports the revised LEV and ZEV regulations that have emerged from the collaborative process between the automobile manufacturers, the Section 177 States, and CARB staff.

Sincerely,

Daniel C. Esty Commissioner