

We Need Stronger National Clean Car Standards

Improving Air Quality, Protecting Climate, Saving Money

Transportation is the largest source of climate pollution in the United States. Within the transportation sector, cars and light-duty trucks account for 57% of greenhouse gas emissions.¹ Clean car standards will help the U.S. reduce climate pollution and improve air quality for communities.

President Biden has a historic opportunity to protect public health, save families money and fight the climate crisis

The Biden administration has undone the previous administration's unlawful rollback of our nation's clean car standards, restoring strong fuel economy and emissions benchmarks through model year 2026 that save drivers money at the pump, help residents breathe cleaner air, and combat the worst impacts of the climate crisis.

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) clean car standards require a nearly 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. EPA's targets look increasingly achievable given accelerating zero-emission vehicle adoption and record-setting sales in 2022.

Now, it is critical that the Biden administration set longer term standards — for model years 2027 and beyond — that will reduce car and light truck GHG emissions 75% by 2030. EPA must ensure that car manufacturers are on a clear path so that all new cars and light-duty trucks sold in the U.S. are zero emission by 2035.

Benefits of Clean Car Standards

Protecting public health: According to the American Lung Association, over four in ten Americans — more than 135 million people — live in communities impacted by unhealthy levels of air pollution, which can increase asthma attacks, heart attacks and strokes, lung cancer and premature death. The shift to more efficient and zero-emission vehicles will help save lives.

Addressing the climate crisis: We are experiencing the impacts of the climate crisis right now with drought, wildfires and extreme heat. To meet the demands of the climate crisis, we need the strongest possible standards.

Saving families money: Low-income consumers spend up to a five times higher percentage of their income on fuel costs than high-income consumers. According to Consumer Reports, the current federal standards will save consumers \$2,400 over the lifetime of their new vehicle.

Creating economic opportunities: The global market is shifting to more efficient and all-electric vehicles. Strong standards will ensure that the U.S. maintains its role as a leader and continues to grow vehicle manufacturing jobs.

Bottom line: We must maximize the impact of our national clean car standards—the most effective policy that the federal government has to reduce dangerous greenhouse gas pollution from vehicles and save people money at the pump nationwide.



¹ EPA's Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks 1990–2020

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