



June 22, 2020

The Honorable Steve Sisolak
Governor, State of Nevada
State Capitol Building
101 N. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor Sisolak,

We write to thank your administration for initiating a rulemaking to adopt Clean Car Standards and taking this essential step toward healthy air, expanded consumer options, and a clean energy economy during an extraordinarily difficult time. We are strong supporters of Clean Car Standards and represent a diverse coalition of business leaders, conservationists, science and public health advocates, labor representatives, community organizations, local governments, and consumer groups. We share a commitment to improving air quality and addressing climate change, while creating a more equitable and inclusive Nevada. Clean Car Standards are critical to jump-starting the deployment of the zero-emission vehicles that will be important to meet these goals, and we are excited to discuss the many benefits of these standards during the rulemaking process.

As you know, the transportation sector is a major contributor to air quality problems in Northern and Southern Nevada, and is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the state.¹ Pollution from fossil-fuel vehicles exacerbates health problems for Nevada's communities of color and its most vulnerable citizens, including children, the elderly, and anyone with respiratory conditions like asthma. Early studies indicate polluted air can be associated with higher COVID-19 death rates, which underscores the importance of clean air to public health and resilience.² Clean Car Standards will reduce this dangerous air pollution and ensure that Nevadans will have a greater selection of cleaner, more fuel-efficient vehicles – including electric vehicles. These vehicles will save money for households and businesses alike, while keeping billions of Nevadans' hard-earned dollars at home instead of being sent out of the state for gasoline. At a time when Nevadans are hurting, this program would be a significant way to start reducing transportation costs for households across the state and to help build a stronger economy.

Nevada needs to take action now to achieve the targets set forth in Senate Bill 254 and your Executive Order 2019-22 to reduce emissions 45 percent from 2005 levels by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality by 2050. By initiating the Clean Car Standards rulemaking, your administration would help improve clean transportation options available to Nevadans, particularly the options surrounding plug-in electric

¹ *Nevada Statewide Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Projections, 1990-2039*, Nevada Department of Environmental Protection. (2019)

² *Emerging research from across the globe, including Harvard as well as studies coming out of Europe and China. For a summary of the studies see [here](#).*

vehicles. Automakers produce more than 40 electric makes and models, but only a dozen were readily available at Nevada dealerships in 2019.³ Not only would adoption of the Clean Car Standards change this availability and give consumers more choice, but it would also demonstrate the state's leadership as it takes another step toward even more comprehensive efforts to reduce air and climate change pollution across the economy.

We look forward to working with your administration in the upcoming rulemaking to ensure Nevadans have access to affordable clean cars that save money and keep our air clean and our climate stable for generations to come.

Respectfully, the undersigned organizations:



Cc: Bradley Crowell, Director, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
 Greg Lovato, Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection

³ Source: Analysis of dealership inventories within a 25-mile radius of Las Vegas and of Reno on June 10, 2019 using Cars.com.