The Problem: Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Pollution

Medium- and heavy-duty vehicles (MHDVs) significantly contribute to New York’s carbon emissions. MHDVs include buses, pickups, vans, garbage trucks and long-haul trucks. Currently there are over 600,000 MHDVs active in New York State that collectively travel 11.5 billion miles annually and emit over 15.4 million metric tons of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. That’s about a quarter of all on-road vehicle emissions in the state.

MHDVs are a major source of air pollution. New York currently fails to meet federal air quality standards for ground-level ozone, or smog. Nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions from vehicles, particularly from MHDVs, are by far the greatest contributor to ozone formation in New York state. MHDVs are also responsible for 52% of the nitrogen oxide (NOx) and 45% of the particulate matter (PM2.5) from on-road emissions in New York marking MHDVs as a huge contributor to asthma and other heart and lung diseases associated with ozone, NOx and PM2.5 exposure.

The ACT rule would substantially reduce all emissions from trucks, including greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change and other pollutants that directly impact public health.

The Solution: Electrification through the Advanced Clean Trucks Rule

The Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) rule is the quickest and most effective way to get MHDVs electrified on a large scale. The proposed regulation requires that MHDV manufacturers gradually produce and sell an increasing percentage of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) through 2035, with annual targets that vary by vehicle class (see table 2). It applies to Class 2b-3 pickup trucks and vans, Class 4-8 rigid (non-tractor) trucks, and Class 7-8 tractor trucks. It does not cover transit buses and off-road equipment.

The ACT also includes a one-time reporting requirement from entities that manufacture or operate large fleets of MHDVs. This will provide critical data to help strengthen and accelerate the transition to zero-emission MHDV fleets.

Since its initial adoption in California in 2020, the Advanced Clean Trucks Rule has already received the support of over 70 major companies and investors—$30 billion worth in assets—and is under consideration in five other states.

The Many Benefits of Truck Electrification

The ACT is an essential step towards achieving New York’s CLCPA mandates.
New York’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act ("CLCPA") commits the state to net zero emissions by 2050 and to reduce actual GHG emissions by 85% from 1990 levels. The ACT will reduce annual fleet GHG emissions by 41% by 2050 and jump-start the transition to electric vehicles. As Governor Hochul said, the ACT “mark(s) a critical milestone in our efforts” to fulfill CLCPA mandates.

**The ACT will provide immediate and tangible benefits for public health**

Most MHDVs run on diesel engines, which spew carcinogenic emissions. Due to the discriminatory siting of truck intensive infrastructure such as highways, warehouses, and port facilities near low-income and minority communities, harmful air pollutants from MHDVs are concentrated in these communities. As a result, these communities often experience the worst air pollution levels, asthma rates, and other health problems.

Electrification eliminates all harmful MHDV emissions. Table 3 shows the projected health and financial effects of the ACT from 2025-2050.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Metric (through 2050)</th>
<th>Advanced Clean Trucks Rule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avoided Premature Deaths</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoided Hospital Visits</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoided Minor Cases</td>
<td>155,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monetized Value (2020)</td>
<td>$2.78 Billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 3: NY Clean Trucks Fact Sheet*

**The ACT will save money and create jobs**

The technology to begin large-scale electrification of vehicles exists today and is or will soon be cost-effective on a lifetime basis compared to diesel vehicles. For example, over its lifetime, an electric truck can save nearly $30,000 in lowered fuel and maintenance costs. Along with net savings on vehicles, electrification results in an estimated net increase in jobs.

The ACT is one of the single most important actions New York can take today to meet greenhouse gas reduction goals, build back a greener economy and jobs, and reduce air pollution that disproportionately harms communities of color.

**Why New York Needs to Adopt the ACT Immediately**

Unless the rule is finalized by December 31, 2021, New York may have to delay implementation of the ACT by a full year. Even a one-year implementation delay would result in hundreds of additional diesel trucks on our roads, emitting carcinogenic exhaust into our neighborhoods and harming our climate for the next two decades.

It is vital that we show support for the immediate passage of the ACT this year. One of our biggest opportunities to do so will be on November 9, 2021, at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation’s virtual public hearing on the proposed rule. Any member of the public can join the hearing to voice support for the rule.

Register for the hearing here: [http://www.webex.com](http://www.webex.com) by November 8, 2021 at 10am EST.

Click “Join a meeting”, input the event number: 179 226 5743, click “Register” and fill in the requested information. You will receive a confirmation email detailing instructions for joining the hearing.