



Friday, January 15, 2021

Dear President-Elect Biden and Vice President-Elect Harris:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations working on the frontlines to address harms from pollution on communities of color and low-income communities, we write regarding solutions that must be pursued with vigor from day one. Your administration has identified addressing the disproportionate harms faced by communities of color and low-income communities as a key part of your platform. In fact, your administration committed to direct the Cabinet to prioritize the climate strategies and technologies that most improve public health. For decades, the freight industry has bombarded our communities with harmful pollution and other impacts. Addressing the rampant environmental injustice from this industry and fulfilling your promises requires regulations and policies to advance zero-emissions solutions powered by zero-emissions power generation. We cannot continue to rely on combustion equipment, which produces large quantities of pollution in our communities.

In particular, we need your administration to be strong in advancing zero-emission truck regulations, policies, and workforce development to facilitate our shift to a zero-emissions trucking future at all relevant agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, Department of Health and Human

Services, Department of Labor, amongst others. We also need these agencies to pass regulations and policies requiring zero-emissions equipment beyond trucks, including locomotives, cargo handling equipment, construction equipment, and other off-road equipment. These agencies will be critical in solving the continual health crisis imposed by the dirty diesel vehicles that are so pervasive in our communities.

We also ask that your administration take the job development potential for zero-emissions equipment seriously, particularly in our communities. As we shift to a new economy that is not fueled by products that poison us and the planet, we want to see the job benefits of that transition in our communities, including jobs building vehicles, installing charging infrastructure, maintenance, and other components of this new energy economy. Our labor and economic agencies need to pursue these jobs in our communities as a way to advance not only a clean economy, but also one that is just.

Overall, we cannot continue to have an industry that imposes these harms on our communities. We need you and your new administration to make this a top priority as a means to fulfill your promises to address environmental injustice. We look forward to working with you and your administration.

Sincerely,

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CC: Biden-Harris Transition and Landing Teams