

## ACC II testimony Tuesday

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Tue 11/15/2022 11:14 AM

To: Krall, Kyle (DNREC) <Kyle.Krall@delaware.gov>

My name is John Irwin. I'm a resident of New Castle County. I'm a volunteer with the Sierra Club here in Delaware, a parent and a volunteer at a democratic school here.

I urge you to fully adopt the ACC II rules as adopted by California.

We've heard again at the COP27 in Egypt that we're not reducing emissions enough to meet our commitments made in Paris. We need to accelerate our efforts at every level of government to make real measurable changes to turn that around.

Here in Delaware transportation is the largest emitting sector of the economy. The ACC II rules should be an essential part of reducing our contribution to the greenhouse gas emissions going forward as well as reducing the contribution of transportation to our severe air pollution problems.

We've heard today and know from research by the American Lung Association that we need to improve our air quality here in New Castle County especially, but all across Delaware. ACC II would require healthier standards for tailpipe emissions that would directly improve air quality in the neighborhoods around heavily trafficked areas. I'm lucky not to live near a heavily traveled road, but I care about all the people who do. Delaware has a large problem with asthma. It is an injustice that air quality is generally worst in underserved communities and communities of people of color.

We need to make battery electric vehicles and low emission vehicles much more accessible to all people in Delaware. Not being signed on the ACC I program, we haven't had local access to a full range of clean running vehicles. Delawareans often have to buy out of state to find the right car for them.

I want to be able to choose from local dealers and be part of the transition to a clean driving future.

We also need to build programs to increase access to people in the communities with the worst air quality so that all Delawareans have a chance to participate in this transition and improve their local air quality.

Fully adopting ACC II with its health promoting standards and encouragement of a rapid transition to lower greenhouse gas emissions helps us both locally and globally.

Our climate scientists have told us that we need to do more to reduce emissions and do it soon.

I want to pass on a world with a livable climate to my son and to all children around the world. It breaks my heart to look at the young children at the school where I volunteer and think of the challenges they will face. We're already seeing the climate disasters. Let's do everything we can to reduce the severity of those dangerous possibilities. What we do now will matter.

Please face the reality of what needs to be done, and do it.

John Irwin

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