

## Public Comments on ACC2 Program for Delaware

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Wed 11/30/2022 8:48 PM

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

Mr Kyle Krall,

Dear DNREC and Governor Carney,

I am writing this letter as a deeply concerned Delaware family & community health physician and long term resident.

Thank you to Governor Carney for the announcement on March 3 of this year that Delaware should move forward with adopting the full Advanced Clean Cars program (ACCII). California has approved ACCII as of August 25. I urge you to follow through now on that commitment.

As elsewhere, we in Delaware are in the midst of a serious climate health crisis.

Delaware's air ranks 38th in the United States for air quality.

Almost every day of the year, Delaware's air exceeds the WHO (World Health Organization's) safe upper limit level for deadly fine particulate pollution.

We suffer far more than our share of lung diseases and lung cancer. Delaware ranks 39th for cases of lung cancer, 28th for asthma in adults, and 38th for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Air pollution has been attributed to 25% of deaths from heart disease, our leading killer.

The ACCII program addresses this climate health crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions via a transition by 2035 to requiring 100% of new cars to be zero-emission small and light-duty vehicles. 70% of transportation greenhouse gas emissions come from passenger cars and trucks.

A 2022 American Lung Association report found that a nationwide shift to electric cars, buses, and heavy-duty trucks, backed by increasing levels of clean, non-combustion renewable energy, will save 111,000 lives, prevent 2.7 million asthma attacks and create \$1.2 trillion in public health benefits by 2050.

Adopting the ACCII addresses serious health impacts from smog and other tailpipe pollution like asthma, cardiovascular disease, impaired lung development in children, and preterm and low-birthweight infants, for all Delawareans but particularly disadvantaged communities. The ACCII also includes improvements in the air quality standards that protect our health.

Thank you for your consideration in adopting the ACCII program before end of 2022.

Sincerely,

Patt Ellen Panzer, MD, MPH

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