

11 March 16, 2006

Dear Environmental Quality Board,

I am writing to urge the state to move ahead as quickly as possible in implementing the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program, and its clean air standards for cars and trucks that go beyond weaker federal requirements.

Pennsylvania ranks among the worst states in the country when it comes to air pollution. Our air pollution is plaguing our state and leading to a host of public health problems, including asthma attacks in children and aggravation of respiratory ailments in adults.

One of the worst sources of this pollution is cars and trucks. Technology exists today that would allow cars and trucks to run cleaner and significantly reduce our air pollution problems.

By moving as quickly as possible to implement the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program we would be able to significantly reduce our air pollution problem. Emissions of smog-forming pollution from cars and trucks would be cut by 10 percent, toxic benzene pollution up to 15 percent and global warming emissions would drop by nearly 25 percent by 2025, as compared to reductions under the weaker federal program being considered. And an added benefit of the standards is that they would likely make cars go farther on a gallon of gas, saving Pennsylvanians' money when they fill up at the gas pump.

Again, I urge the state to move forward and implement the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program.

We should not settle for the weaker federal requirements. We deserve better.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Gallagher

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