

Breton, Mary B

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To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Chapter 128, Advanced Clean Trucks Program

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My name is Anna Siegel, I am a student and Yarmouth resident, and I am writing in support of the Advanced Clean Trucks rule. I am also the Advocacy Director of Maine Youth Action, an organization that empowers youth to engage in Maine politics by fighting for bold and equitable climate policy.

Maine Youth Action supports the adoption of the Advanced Clean Trucks rule. As the climate crisis intensifies, urgent action must be taken to reduce the transportation emissions that endanger our present and my future. Adopting this rule is an essential step towards a clean energy and sustainable future. It is also crucial for public health. Public health has been on everyone's minds since the onset of the pandemic. Combined with the recent climate-fueled rise in wildfires, air quality is more pressing an issue than ever.

I have a family member with severe asthma and another disorder that is triggered by particulates in the air. Days that look sunny blue for others are chokingly polluted for her. There are days where all I can do is speak for her, find the inhaler, try to ignore the wheezes, and hope it will get better. But I no longer have to cross my fingers and hope—adopting the Advanced Clean Trucks rule is a solution for my family member and for everyone who struggles because of air pollution. Trucks emit disproportionate levels of nitrogen oxide, which contributes to the formation of both particulate matter pollution and ozone. With the adoption of steady, gradual sales targets for pollution-free electric trucks we can address these dire air quality problems. We can clear our air, protect communities near dense roadways, and prevent all-too-common diseases such as asthma that afflict many Mainers, particularly children and marginalized communities.

I urge you to adopt the Advanced Clean Trucks rule, for the climate we live in and the air we breathe.

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Anna Siegel
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Maine Youth Action - Campaign Director
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