Breton, Mary B

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To: DEP Rule Comments

Subject: Ch. 128 ACT (clean trucks rule)

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Greetings Maine Department of Environmental Protection,

I am today commenting on the proposed rule for Ch. 128 ACT (Advanced Clean Trucks).

California leads the nation in adopting rules that limit emissions from medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicles. Simply put, Maine should follow. I am indeed glad that we have an opportunity to adopt the California standards and stay ahead of the weaker federal standards. Truck transport today is increasing, and it is more important than ever to minimize the pollution from this large emissions sector. There are two main benefits. The first is to the communities, mostly disadvantaged, that have suffered for decades by being close to manufacturing hubs and warehouses and to transportation routes. It is only just that we must make the air cleaner in those locales. The second is a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions within the trucking transport and delivery industries which cause a disproportionate amount of these emissions.

After the continually grim weather news of this summer for the US, with July the hottest month ever measured on our planet, it is evident that we must step up the pace of decarbonizing our transportation sector and moving it towards electric vehicles. This rule is part of a necessary strategy to avoid the catastrophic effects of climate change which are now becoming evident.

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