



MULTI-STATE MEDIUM- AND HEAVY-DUTY ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE INITIATIVE

STATEMENT OF INTENT DECEMBER 12, 2019

The urgency of the climate crisis demands immediate, aggressive action by all levels of government and all sectors of the global economy. Our communities are already experiencing the damaging effects of climate change – more frequent and extreme weather events, devastating floods, rising sea levels, prolonged drought, destructive wildfires, and mounting economic losses in the billions of dollars.

States, as well as the District of Columbia, have a critical leadership role to play in establishing and implementing policies and programs to rapidly decarbonize our economy at a pace needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Our states recognize that nearly all new motor vehicles need to be electric by 2050 to achieve the necessary reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, transportation electrification is a key climate action strategy and a top air quality priority for our states.

Many of our states are signatories to a 2013 Governors' Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Memorandum of Understanding, by which the states committed to formation of a Multi-State ZEV Task Force and development of a comprehensive ZEV Action Plan to accelerate consumer adoption of zero emission light-duty passenger cars and trucks. This successful effort has proven to be a model for effective and efficient collaborative state action. The same kind of public commitment and focused collaborative state effort to develop and implement a range of market enabling programs and initiatives is needed for medium- and heavy duty vehicles.

After light-duty vehicles, medium- and heavy-duty vehicles are the next largest contributor to transportation sector greenhouse gas emissions. Diesel emissions from these vehicles are also a major source of nitrogen dioxides, particulate matter, and air toxics, and are preventing many densely

populated areas from achieving air quality levels that are protective of public health with an adequate margin of safety. These harmful emissions have a disproportionate impact on many disadvantaged communities located near ports, distribution centers, and other trucking hubs. Manufacturers are beginning to produce zero emission buses and trucks and companies are responding by converting their fleets to cleaner alternatives. States can play a vital role in this process. It is our intention to build on the light-duty ZEV memorandum of understanding as a successful model to advance adoption of zero emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

Through this Statement of Intent, the undersigned states and the District of Columbia, commit to the development of a multi-state memorandum of understanding to support and accelerate the deployment of medium- and heavy-duty ZEVs through a collaborative process facilitated by the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM). It is our intention to present a proposed memorandum of understanding to the governors of the undersigned states and the mayor of the District of Columbia for consideration in the summer of 2020.

[Signatures on the following pages]

Mary D. Nichols

Mary D. Nichols
Chair
California Air Resources Board



Katie S. Dykes
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



Tommy Wells
Director
District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment



Gerald D. Reid

Commissioner

Maine Department of Environmental Protection



Martin Suuberg
Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Catherine R. McCabe

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection



Richard Whitman
Director
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality



Janet Coit
Director
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Services

Emily Boedecker

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Commissioner
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation