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**NESCAUM States Support Recommendations for  
No Changes to California Zero Emission Vehicle Standards**

Today, the Air Resources Board (ARB) Staff released its mid-term review report on California's low emission vehicle program. The findings detailed in the report substantiate the viability of the zero emission vehicle (ZEV) requirements and Staff recommends no changes to the ZEV standards for passenger cars and trucks through 2025.

The California ZEV regulation, which has been adopted by seven NESCAUM<sup>1</sup> member states, requires automakers to sell increasing numbers of zero-emission vehicles through 2025.

NESCAUM commends ARB Staff for the thorough and detailed analysis contained in the report and fully supports their recommendations to the Board. Electrification of passenger cars and trucks is critical to achieving greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

The ZEV requirements have not fully taken effect in our states due to a regulatory provision that allows automakers to concentrate early marketing efforts in California. If the California Air Resources Board accepts Staff recommendations, that provision will expire at the end of the 2017 model year, which will boost electric vehicle availability, marketing and sales in the Northeast ZEV states.

As the mid-term review report highlights, the ZEV rule is working as intended to drive the advancement of zero-emission vehicle technologies. Batteries continue to improve and to come down in cost, making affordable long-range electric vehicles a reality, and automakers are continually expanding electric vehicle offerings into new market segments

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<sup>1</sup> NESCAUM – the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management – is a non-profit association of the state air quality agencies in the Northeast. Its Board of Directors consists of the air directors of the six New England states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont), New Jersey, and New York. NESCAUM provides scientific, technical, analytical, and policy support to the air quality and climate programs of the eight northeast states, including assistance with the implementation of national environmental programs required under the Clean Air Act and other federal legislation.

that promise to appeal to a broader segment of mainstream buyers in the Northeast and across the country.

Our states are implementing a range of complementary measures, such as vehicle purchase incentives and workplace charging programs to support ZEV market growth.

“In Massachusetts, electrification of the transportation sector is essential if we are to achieve our climate, energy and environmental goals,” said Martin Suuberg, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. “We welcome the ARB staff recommendations, and concur that much more is possible in terms of opportunities to electrify the transportation sector. It’s not too soon to start looking ahead to the next set of ZEV standards for 2025 and beyond,” said Commissioner Suuberg.

“The introduction of affordable longer range vehicles with all-wheel drive in models favored by Northeast consumers, including crossovers, minivans, and SUVs, along with fully implementing the ZEV program in 2017, as envisioned by ARB, promises to be a game changer for the Northeast market,” said Rob Klee, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. “The Northeast is now poised to become one of the world’s top markets for zero-emission vehicles.”

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