

NATIONAL TRIBAL AIR ASSOCIATION FACT SHEET

EPA's Proposed "Clean Trucks Plan"

BACKGROUND

In August 2021 President Biden issued Executive Order 14037, Strengthening American Leadership in Clean Cars and Trucks¹. This order directs the EPA Administrator to promulgate regulations to reduce air pollutant emissions from motor vehicles toward "the transition to a zero-emissions transportation future"². A significant element of this initiative is EPA's proposed Clean Trucks Plan. Implementing this multi-part plan began in March 2022 with a proposed rule entitled *Control of Air Pollution From New Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards*³

OVERVIEW

The Clean Trucks Plan is comprised of three planned regulatory actions:

- Setting more stringent standards on emissions of nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and greenhouse gas from new heavy-duty trucks beginning in model year 2027
- Setting more stringent standards on emissions of multiple air pollutants from medium-duty and light-duty vehicles for model year 2027 and beyond
- Setting more rigorous standards for greenhouse gas emissions from heavy-duty vehicles beginning in model year 2030 and promoting transition to vehicle electrification.

On April 14 NTAA participated in a public hearing on the first of these proposed regulations⁴. These comments supported a rule requiring that heavy-duty vehicles be "as clean as possible" – EPA's stated commitment in describing

the proposed rule⁵. Additional comments will be submitted in writing.

IMPORTANCE TO TRIBES

Emissions from heavy-duty vehicles contribute to multiple impacts on the health and well-being of indigenous people and communities. Nitrogen oxide emissions are a principal cause of elevated ozone concentrations that exceed healthful levels. Direct inhalation exposures to multiple pollutants from diesel engines affect tribal communities near to one or more major transportation corridors. Climate changes, in part caused by greenhouse gas emissions from heavy-duty vehicles, present immediate threats to our communities throughout the United States. Reducing emissions from heavy-duty vehicles will benefit all tribal communities in many ways such as fewer hospital admissions, lessened impacts of asthma, fewer lost school days and workdays.



EPA to propose sweeping new truck emissions regs. (Photo: Jim Allen/FreightWaves)

HOW TO COMMENT ON EPA'S PROPOSED RULE

- EPA extended the comment period for this proposed rule; comments must be received on or before **May 16, 2022**.
- Comments on the Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards should cite **Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0055** and be submitted via either: Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov/> (preferred) OR email to a-r-Docket@epa.gov, including in the Subject Line "Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0055".
- NTAA has prepared a Policy Resource Kit for tribes to use to comment.
- For more information see EPA's [website](#).

1. Strengthening American Leadership in Clean Cars and Trucks, Executive Order 14037, August 10, 2021
2. Transportation and Environmental Justice, Regulatory Announcement, USEPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality, EPA-420-F-22-008, March 2022
3. Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Register/ Vol.87, No. 59 /Monday March 28, 2022/ Proposed Rules
4. National Tribal Air Association's (NTAA's) Public Testimony Regarding USEPA's Proposed Rule to "Control Air Pollution From New Motor vehicles: Heavy Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards", April 14, 2022
5. EPA Proposes Stronger Standards for heavy-Duty vehicles to Promote Clean Air, Protect Communities, and Support Transition to Zero-Emissions Future, United State Environmental Protection Agency News Release, March 7, 2022