

**Testimony before the Governor's Regulatory Review Council:**  
**Clean Car Standards**

Diane E. Brown, Executive Director  
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On behalf of the Arizona PIRG Education Fund, I thank the Governor's Regulatory Review Council for your consideration of the Clean Cars Program and urge you to vote in favor of this Program. The Arizona PIRG Education Fund conducts research and education on public interest issues. The Arizona PIRG Education Fund is affiliated with the U.S. PIRG Education Fund, the state PIRGs and state environment groups, who have worked on the Clean Cars Program in many of the states that now have the Program.

The Arizona PIRG Education Fund has written and released three reports (two of the links are listed below) related to the Clean Cars Program, and the affiliated state PIRGs and environmental groups have written and researched numerous other associated reports.

*The Clean Cars Program: How States Are Driving Cuts in Global Warming Pollution*

<http://www.arizonapirg.org/home/reports/report-archives/clean-cars-for-arizona/clean-cars-for-arizona-reports/the-clean-cars-program-how-states-are-driving-cuts-in-global-warming-pollution>

This report documents how tailpipe standards already adopted in 12 states would reduce global warming emissions by nearly 400 million metric tons by 2020 – a reduction level equivalent to taking 74 million of today's cars off the road for an entire year.

*Cars and Global Warming: Policy Options To Reduce Arizona's Global Warming Pollution From Cars And Light Trucks*

<http://www.arizonapirg.org/home/reports/report-archives/clean-cars-for-arizona/clean-cars-for-arizona-reports/cars-and-global-warming-policy-options-to-reduce-arizonas-global-warming-pollution-from-cars-and-light-trucks>

This report documents cars contribution to global warming pollution in Arizona and provides policy solutions.

One of the key statistics our research has documented is how the Clean Cars Program will cut carbon dioxide emissions from cars, light trucks and SUVs in Arizona by 7.25 million metric tons annually by 2025, the equivalent of taking 1.3 million of today's cars off the road for an entire year.

As you know and as our reports illustrate, the Clean Cars Program limits health damaging pollution from automobiles. The Program is known to pave the way for the widespread introduction of technologies like hybrid-electric and fuel-cell vehicles, direct-injection engines, advanced transmissions, improved air conditioning systems, and other technologies with the potential to reduce pollution.

### The Clean Cars Program – Necessary, Not Duplicative, Good for the Public

As you are aware, in February 2005, Governor Napolitano created the Climate Change Advisory Group (CCAG) to provide policy recommendations to reduce global warming emissions in Arizona. One of the most serious consequences of global warming for Arizona is how it could decrease the mountain snowpack and alter annual water flows. Other serious impacts include increased rates of serious wildfires, decreased groundwater supplies, increased drought and unpredictable precipitation patterns. In addition, rising temperatures are likely to lead to longer and more severe pollution alerts in the Phoenix metro area and more heat related deaths, illness and disease.

Since carbon dioxide (a leading contributor to global warming) and other greenhouse gas emissions in Arizona have increased 464 percent since 1960, and since carbon dioxide pollution from cars and light trucks in Arizona could double from 1990 to 2020 unless action is taken, the Clean Cars Program is not only **necessary** but it is essential to reducing global warming emissions.

In September 2006, the CCAG, a diverse group of stakeholders including utility, business, public health, environmental, tribal and other leaders agreed the Clean Cars Program makes sense for Arizona and unanimously included it as part of their 49 policy recommendations to reduce global warming emissions in Arizona.

As a member of the Transportation and Land Use Working Group (TLU) of the CCAG, it made sense that the Clean Cars Program would emerge as a top policy option for Arizona since transportation-related emissions are responsible for approximately 39 percent of our state's global warming pollution and **there is no other program like this in Arizona**. Cars and light trucks—such as pickups, minivans and SUVs—are the most important sources of global warming pollution within the transportation sector, responsible for approximately 60 percent of all emissions from transportation and more than one-fifth of Arizona's total emissions of global warming pollution. Given that our state's population is expected to almost double that of today and since automobiles are major contributors to smog and vehicle exhaust contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone, an air pollutant that affects public health conditions such as asthma and lung disease, more cars on the road will increase the adverse impacts to the public's health. The Clean Cars Program is a win-win-win for Arizona. **The Clean Cars Program is good for Arizona's air quality, good for public health, and good for consumers.**

In accordance with recommendations from the TLU and CCAG, the governor issued an Executive Order in September 2006 which included adoption and implementation of the Clean Cars Program. When ADEQ conducted its public hearing in March 2008 as part of the rulemaking process, over 100 people attended and of the approximately 45 who testified approximately 75% were in favor (the only opposition came from representatives of the auto industry).

Aside from the stakeholder process, over 75 small businesses and organizations from across the state have stated their support for the Clean Cars Program in Arizona. Due in part to the negative impacts of population growth including longer waits in traffic; a brown cloud more visibly and regularly over urban areas; and smog days coupled with pleas to car pool and make other sacrifices to reduce air pollution, thousands of Arizonans across the state have communicated their support for the Clean Cars Program. Through door-to-door and other citizen outreach efforts, events at the community level and at Arizona universities, and through statewide gatherings, concerned citizens have written letters, signed postcards and sent emails to show their appreciation for the advancement of the Clean Cars Program and to favorably complete the necessary process so Arizona can put cleaner cars on the road.

### GRRC Analysis

The Arizona PIRG Education Fund appreciates GRRC's legal and economic analysis and agrees with the bottom line recommendation to approve the Clean Cars Program rule package. The Arizona PIRG Education Fund finds the rule to be "clear, concise and understandable, legal, consistent with legislative intent and within the agency's statutory authority..." Furthermore, the Arizona PIRG Education Fund finds the **benefits of the Clean Cars Program outweigh the cost**. More specifically:

First, the Clean Cars Program will eliminate more smog and toxic pollution than the federal standards. The Clean Cars Program reduces dangerous auto emissions that aggravate asthma and contribute to lung diseases, cancer and heart disease.

Second, the Clean Cars Program, in contrast to federal standards, will promote the development of advanced technology vehicles, ensuring that each new generation of vehicles is cleaner and more efficient than its predecessor.

Third, the Clean Cars Program would achieve significant reductions in global warming emissions.

In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the Clean Cars Program will reduce air pollution and protect public health, and will provide some relief to consumers at the gas pump which can be put back into the local economy.

In closing, automakers have already invested in research and production facilities necessary to comply with the Clean Cars Program in 13 other states, representing nearly 36 percent of the national vehicle market. The rule has met the necessary criteria, was unanimously recommended by a diverse set of stakeholders, enjoys organizational and citizen support from across the state and deserves your support. **We urge you to vote yes now for the Clean Cars Program.**