



NATIONAL RELIGIOUS PARTNERSHIP
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Administrator Jonathan Morrison
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Docket Number: NHTSA-2025-0491-4915
RIN: 2127-AM76

Subject: Public Comment on The Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule III for Model Years 2022 to 2031 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks

Total Organization Signatures: 23

Administrator Morrison,

As faith based and religious organizations committed to caring for God's creation and honoring the dignity and well-being of all people, particularly the most vulnerable, we write in firm opposition to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) proposal to weaken the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards.

In order to fulfill our moral duty to care for God's creation, we must recognize the interplay between our environmental, social, and economic realities. Living in right relationship with God, one another, and the earth requires us to be prudent in our use of earth's natural resources. When we consume more than we need, we are disrespecting the gifts God gave us and causing undue harm to the earth and others.

Our faith traditions teach that technology should serve the good of society. Incentivizing more fuel efficient cars and light duty trucks creates cleaner air for all to breathe and saves families money at the pump. The transportation sector accounts for the largest portion of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the U.S., contributing 29% of total emissions — of that, 58% of the GHG emissions from transportation come from light duty vehicles and cars. These emissions can cause upper respiratory illnesses, kidney disease, preterm birth, cognitive decline, and cardiovascular disease. The more fuel our vehicles burn, the more dangerous, toxic air is polluted into our air.

The cost of rolling back fuel economy standards will be paid for by American families. NHTSA itself has said that, as a result of this rule, the net cost of passenger car and light truck ownership will increase by between \$187 and \$506 over the vehicle lifetime, driven by a total increase in fuel costs of \$1,112 to \$1,431 for the 2031 model year. The most vulnerable among us will be hit the hardest by these increased costs, with the lowest-income households in the U.S. spending nearly 20% of their income on transportation fuel, while industry executives benefit.

This rollback poses a threat to the environmental, social, and economic well-being of our nation. We urge you to not rollback these sensible fuel efficiency standards.

Sincerely,

1. Adamah
2. Aquarian Minyan
3. Boston Catholic Climate Movement
4. Bronx Jews for Climate Action
5. CAST-- Jewish Floridians for Climate Solutions
6. Catholic Climate Covenant
7. Creation Justice Ministries
8. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
9. Jewish Climate Action Network NYC
10. Jewish Earth Alliance PA
11. Kentucky Interfaith Power & Light
12. Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
13. Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light
14. National Religious Partnership for the Environment
15. Nebraska Interfaith Power and Light
16. NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
17. New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light
18. PA- Jewish Earth Alliance
19. Passionist Solidarity Network
20. Sisters of Mercy of the America Justice Team
21. Tikkun Olam Committee, Ohalah: Association of Rabbis and Cantors for Jewish Renewal
22. Union for Reform Judaism
23. Vermont Interfaith Power & Light