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Comments of Melissa Ramos Senior Manager, Clean Air Advocacy American Lung Association On

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency California Advanced Clean Fleets Waiver Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0589 August 14, 2024

Hello, my name is Melissa Ramos, I am the Sr. Manager of Clean Air Advocacy at the American Lung Association. As a clean air advocate for both Nevada and Arizona, I urge EPA to approve the clean air waiver for the Advanced Clean Fleets rule.

The Lung Association advocates for policies that will reduce harmful air pollution, clean up greenhouse gas emissions, and protect lung health.

Too many people are breathing unhealthy levels of air pollution, especially in Nevada and Arizona where we face extreme challenges with poor air quality.

95% of Nevadans, and 84% of Arizonans, live in a county with at least one failing air quality grade.

California and other states have the authority to reduce unhealthy vehicle air pollution by adopting the Advanced Clean Fleets standard, but need EPA to act on the waiver without delay.

The Lung Association's "Delivering Clean Air" report found that in high truck traffic areas in Las Vegas and Phoenix there is a potential for \$12.5 billion in health benefits and over 1,100 deaths avoided by transitioning to zero-emission trucks and a clean electricity grid.

By shifting more new vehicles in truck fleets to zero-emission technologies, the ACF rule will significantly cut diesel exhaust and associated health harms by ensuring a long-term transition to zero-emission trucks on the road.

<u>National</u> polling from the American Lung Association found over 70% of voters support cleaning up harmful truck pollution, and the majority are in favor of waiver approvals to all states to stronger limits on vehicle emissions.

Further, local polling by the Lung Association found that 77% of Arizona voters believe a transition to zero-emission vehicles will have a positive impact on air quality.

For the past decade, my home state of Nevada and others adopted vehicle emission standards to reduce air pollution and increase the availability of non-polluting vehicles, such as through the Advanced Clean Cars I standard.

Nevada, Arizona, and other states should have the choice to adopt Advanced Clean Fleets as a tool to further reduce air pollution without delay.

In closing, I urge EPA to approve the ACF rule and the full suite of eight pending clean air policies needed to meet clean air standards.