

MINNESOTANS FOR CLEAN CARS

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WHAT ARE THE CLEAN CARS STANDARDS?

Minnesota is pushing for innovative solutions to the climate crisis, including implementing clean car standards that require manufacturers to provide **more low-emission and electric vehicle options** in Minnesota. Clean car standards will protect our environment and our health, increase consumer choice, save Minnesotans money, and help grow our economy.

In Washington DC, our leaders have failed to act. They have taken unprecedented steps to roll back safeguards that protect air, water, land, and public health. But if Washington won't lead, Minnesota will.

WHY WE NEED CLEAN CARS STANDARDS

- **Transportation is the biggest source of climate pollution in Minnesota.**
- **Reducing air pollution helps secure a healthy future for everyone.**
- **Clean car standards give consumers more choices.**
- **Electric vehicles save Minnesotans money and help grow the economy.**

WE NEED CLEAN CARS STANDARDS BY THE NUMBERS

1. Transportation is now the **#1 source of climate pollution** in Minnesota
2. An estimated **2,000-4,000 Minnesotans** died from pollution-related causes last year
3. Clean car standards are estimated to reduce annual climate pollution by **2 million tons by 2030**
4. **65% of Minnesotans** are urging action to reduce air pollution from transportation
5. **60% of Minnesota car buyers** are interested in electric vehicles options
6. **66% of those Minnesota car buyers** want more electric vehicle models available in the state
7. Nationally **67% of Americans** support clean car standards

*Sources: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Union of Concerned Scientists, Minnesota Department of Health, Consumer Reports, Washington Post-Kaiser Family Foundation



COMMON OPPOSITION POINTS

IF WE ACCEPT THE “CALIFORNIA STANDARDS” WE WILL BE GOVERNED BY BUREAUCRATS IN CALIFORNIA.

Truth: That is simply not the case. By adopting clean car standards, Minnesota would be joining the District of Columbia and 14 other states in reaping the economic and public health benefits of new, clean technologies. Since 1977, the Clean Air Act has established basic limits on pollution from new vehicle models, and individual states like Minnesota can choose to adopt these requirements established decades ago or more thorough standards originating from a California model. This is not leadership by California; it is lack of leadership on the federal level. Governor Walz is stepping up and has directed the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to explore one of its only reasonable options to address pollution.

WHETHER YOU ARE FOR OR AGAINST THE CLEAN CAR STANDARDS, IT’S NOT RIGHT TO SIDESTEP THE LEGISLATURE WITH RULEMAKING.

Truth: The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has the authority to act on reducing air pollution. Clean car standards are a clear effort to fulfill that duty. Moreover, rulemaking is a normal and necessary tool used by administrations across the nation. This argument tries to politicize the MPCA’s authority to reduce harmful emissions to protect the environment and public health.

MINNESOTANS DO NOT WANT ELECTRIC VEHICLES – THE MARKET IS JUST NOT THERE.

Truth: Minnesotans want more electric vehicle options that are simply not available to them without clean car standards. A recent survey from Consumer Reports showed that 60% of prospective car buyers in the state are interested in electric vehicles, and 66% of those surveyed said they want to choose from more types of electric vehicles, such as SUVs and pickup trucks. Buyers in states with clean car standards have access to many more clean and electric vehicles to choose from in a range of sizes like pickup trucks, crossovers and SUVs.

CLEAN CAR STANDARDS ARE BAD FOR BUSINESS.

Truth: The cost and time-saving benefits of electric vehicles have attracted the attention of many of Minnesota’s large businesses, including Best Buy, Target, and 3M, all of which have installed electric vehicle charging stations at some of their facilities. As more and more companies look to transition their fleets to electric vehicles, Minnesota should ensure it is ready to meet this rising demand. Clean car standards help to make that happen by establishing the policies necessary to create a robust market for electric vehicles and build out the necessary charging infrastructure. Transitioning to electric vehicles also presents a major opportunity for companies to reduce their carbon footprint. Clean car standards would not only help Minnesota businesses meet their sustainability goals, they would help the state tackle climate pollution and build on its history of innovation.

CLEAN CAR STANDARDS WILL INCREASE THE COST OF VEHICLES – THE ONLY DISPUTE IS HOW MUCH.

Truth: Clean cars will save consumers far more money at the pump than the program may cost by making available cleaner and more efficient vehicles. As with other technology improvements, include new safety features, there will be a small impact to the upfront cost of new vehicles. However, in this case the improved technology will actually save drivers more money than it costs them. An analysis conducted by the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission found that the average customer can expect net savings of over \$1600 over the life of a clean car. For those who choose to finance their new vehicle purchase, as 86% of consumers currently do, savings are realized on day 1.