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**New Jersey Adopts Clean Truck Rule to Reduce Air Pollution, Improve Public Health
ACTing now for a Cleaner and Healthier Future**

TRENTON, NJ (December 20, 2021) — New Jersey has officially adopted the Advanced Clean Truck (ACT) rule today, becoming the first East Coast state to do so. The rule—which requires truck makers to sell an increasing number of clean, zero-emission trucks in New Jersey—will cut dangerous, polluting fossil fuel emissions throughout the state. A recent [MJ Bradley report](#) found that New Jerseyans will see a myriad of health, climate, and economic benefits with the implementation of the ACT rule.

Environmental justice communities in New Jersey are exposed to a disproportionate level of air pollution, much of it originating from truck and vehicle emissions as well as additional cumulative impacts. This is particularly true in port adjacent communities. Port trucks tend to be the oldest and dirtiest of the medium- and heavy-duty (MHDV) sector - the place where trucks go to die. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey still allow 1998 (23-year old trucks) to enter the port, many with over one million miles on their odometer and pollution control devices that are out of date if operational at all. With 20,000 trucks entering the Port of Newark and Elizabeth on a daily basis, the ACT rule will put New Jersey on a path towards cleaner air for both residents and workers.

While the ACT rule is significant, it does not mandate the use of only zero-emissions trucks by a certain date and/or limit the use of existing dirty diesel trucks on New Jersey's roads and in goods movement, so further policies are needed to better address the pressing needs in impacted Environmental Justice and port adjacent communities.

It is crucial the additional, near term policies guarantee emissions reductions in environmental justice communities. As the state considers other truck policies, the Coalition for Healthy Ports (CHP) calls for the prioritization of funds to replace the dirtiest of the port diesel fleet with zero emission vehicles, mandate the use of only zero emission vehicles in disproportionately impacted Environmental Justice communities by designating zero emission zones and corridors, ensure that the electrification of goods movement does not mean the continued operation and/or construction of new fossil fuel power plants but rather the development of renewable

energy alternatives to power electric vehicles, and that the jobs created to move towards greener fleets and goods movement are family sustaining jobs and made available first to low-income and Of Color communities who are more likely to be impacted by diesel emissions and less likely to see the benefits of electrification without the targeted efforts we need.

The following quotes are from Coalition for Healthy Ports leaders and allies:

“The Advanced Clean Truck rule is a critical component to ensuring that more zero emission trucks get on the road. However, the rule without mandates and incentives will not be enough to ensure cleaner air to all New Jersey residents, especially Environmental Justice communities who suffer from asthma, heart attacks and premature deaths from dirty diesel spewing in the air. We look forward to working with DEP on adopting comprehensive policies for 100% zero emission vehicles.” - **Kim Gaddy, Director, South Ward Environmental Alliance**

“More than anything, we need emissions reductions policies that guarantee marked improvements in pollution burdened and diesel-impacted communities. The ACT rule is a starting point and opens the door to New Jersey adopting more targeted rules in the future.” - **Melissa Miles, Executive Director of New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance**

“The ACT rule is an important step, which hopefully signals New Jersey’s commitment to cleaning up its act. However without mandates and regulation of the already existing dirty trucks Environmental Justice communities are being left behind in the details once again. We cannot only depend on the market to save us, we need mandatory emissions reductions as a part of everything we do if we ever want to overcome the environmental racism that is still alive today.” - **Maria Lopez-Nunez, Ironbound Community Corporation**

“As more states act to adopt the ACT rule, it will create a tidal wave of demand for zero emission technologies and innovation - bringing more options and driving down costs. We know switching to all electric powered trucking and goods movement will not happen overnight; but it is an essential element to protecting public health and addressing the climate crisis regardless of the zip code you live in.” - **Amy Goldsmith, NJ State Director, Clean Water Action**

“Today's adoption of the ACT Rule is a necessary first step in reducing harmful emissions from the transportation sector. We applaud NJDEP for prioritizing the health and well-being of New Jersey communities, particularly those located next to ports and goods-movement infrastructure, and we look forward to future rule adoptions that further this goal.” - **Jasmine Crenshaw, Associate Attorney, Earthjustice**

“With the adoption of the ACT rule, New Jersey’s medium- and heavy-duty truck market will be shifted away from using dirty fossil fuels to zero-emission technology. Cleaning up tailpipe

pollution from thousands of trucks on New Jersey's roads is one of the best ways to improve the health of communities from Newark to Cape May. Adopting the ACT rule is an important first step, and now New Jersey must adopt additional measures designed specifically to ensure reductions in air pollution from transportation in communities of color and low-income communities." - **Kathy Harris, Clean Vehicles and Fuels Advocate, Natural Resources Defense Council**

"Taking action to slash dirty diesel truck pollution is one of the single most important things that New Jersey can do to clean up the air, reduce health burdens, and move toward meaningfully reducing climate emissions. As the first East Coast state, and the fourth state nationwide to adopt the ACT, New Jersey has taken a step forward and demonstrated clear momentum. But much more will be necessary to ensure localized pollution reductions." - **Paulina Muratore, Transportation Campaign Manager, Union of Concerned Scientists**

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Coalition for Healthy Ports (CHP) is a bi-state alliance founded in 2007 by environmental and environmental justice activists, truck drivers, faith leaders, labor unions, and community advocates fighting for zero emissions, clean air, good jobs, healthy communities, environmental and economic justice at the Ports of New York and New Jersey and throughout the logistics industry. Particular emphasis is given to port-adjacent communities that are disproportionately overburdened by port pollution and operations. www.coalitionforhealthyports.org