

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 24, 2021**

**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**James C. Kenney**  
Cabinet Secretary, Environment Department

**Tim Keller**  
Mayor, City of Albuquerque

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## **Environment Department and City of Albuquerque begin rulemaking process for clean cars**

**SANTA FE** — In 2019, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham committed the state to tackling greenhouse gas emissions in the state, which contribute to climate change and harm public health.

After drafting significant regulations to address greenhouse gas emissions from the highest emitting sector – the oil and gas industry, the state is beginning its campaign to reduce emissions from the second highest emitting sector in the state: transportation.

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and the City of Albuquerque are announcing their coordinated rulemaking efforts to adopt New Mexico Clean Car Rules in New Mexico and the City in spring 2022.

“A Clean Car rule will combat climate change, improve air quality, makes more inexpensive cars available to New Mexicans and stimulate our economy,” said Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham. “Tackling emissions from the transportation sector is an essential part of reducing New Mexico’s carbon footprint.”

Clean car rules require auto dealers to sell a certain percentage of low-emission and zero-emission passenger vehicles. With many New Mexicans frequently using vehicles for long trips, these rules will be especially impactful and are expected to eliminate nearly 2 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 – the same as taking 200,000 cars off the road for an entire year.

“Having cleaner standards for new cars sold in New Mexico is a common-sense move to protect the health of Albuquerque and the state and bring electric cars to our markets,” said Mayor Tim Keller. “We’re showing that our cities and states are the drivers of change. Albuquerque and New Mexico are continuing to lead the way in our collective work to build more sustainable communities and combat climate change.”

“We are fully committed to a transparent process that includes input from the public, industry, environmental groups and other stakeholders to ensure the rule is comprehensive, fair and effective.” said NMED Cabinet Secretary James Kenney. “Our partnership with the City will ensure *all* New Mexico communities can participate in the rulemaking process and reap the benefits of clean car rules.”

“The franchised member dealers of the New Mexico Automotive Dealers Association look forward to working with the state and city in the development of clean car rules and the expansion of electric vehicle transportation in our state,” said Association President Charles Henson. “We also want to contribute to the development of local and state policies that facilitate additional infrastructure for electric vehicles.”

NMED and the City will develop rules in tandem, as the City of Albuquerque with Bernalillo County have their own air quality jurisdiction. Without such a partnership, separate efforts could result in inequitable implementation and fewer climate and clean air benefits for New Mexicans.

A virtual public kick-off meeting will be at 5 p.m. July 21, 2021. The initial meeting will provide the public with more information on the joint State/City effort to bring clean car rules to New Mexico, including how the rules work and an overview of the rulemaking process. There will also be a question-and-answer session for participants.

More public meetings will be held this summer and fall. NMED and the City expect to file the rules with their respective rulemaking bodies in December 2021, with hearings taking place in spring 2022. Both NMED and the City are dedicated to a robust and inclusive public engagement process with opportunities for stakeholder participation throughout.



For additional information on the clean cars rulemaking, contact Claudia Borchert at NMED at 505-699-8489 or [Claudia.borchert@state.nm.us](mailto:Claudia.borchert@state.nm.us). If you need language interpretation services or other accommodations, please contact Claudia Borchert by July 12. Sign up for clean car rule updates and future meeting announcements [here](#).

## MEETING INFORMATION

Topic: Clean Cars New Mexico: Kick-off meeting  
Time: 5 p.m. Mountain Time July 21, 2021

Link to Zoom meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/97826114197?pwd=Snk3QWhud1VyMEVGdDFEMU2QyVIRiUT09>

Meeting ID: 978 2611 4197

Passcode: 624596

One tap mobile

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

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Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abGvoLo3V>

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