



**EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL 3:00 P.M. ET
August 5, 2021**

MEDIA ADVISORY

President Biden to Announce New Target for Zero-Emission Vehicles; EPA and DOT to Announce Proposal for Near-Term Fuel Efficiency Standards

According to a [fact sheet](#) released today by the White House, President Biden will sign an Executive Order this afternoon “that sets an ambitious new target to make half of all new vehicles sold in 2030 zero-emissions vehicles, including battery electric, plug-in hybrid electric, or fuel cell electric vehicles,” and “kicks off development of long-term fuel efficiency and emissions standards to save consumers money, cut pollution, boost public health, advance environmental justice, and tackle the climate crisis.”

In addition, and consistent with the [President’s Day One Executive Order](#), “the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will announce how they are addressing the previous administration’s harmful rollbacks of near-term fuel efficiency and emissions standards.”

The White House also stated that “through these coordinated notices of proposed rulemaking, EPA and DOT are advancing smart fuel efficiency and emissions standards that would deliver around \$140 billion in net benefits over the life of the program, save about 200 billion gallons of gasoline, and reduce around two billion metric tons of carbon pollution. For the average consumer, this means net benefits of up to \$900 over the life of the vehicle in fuel savings.”

EPN MEMBER STATEMENTS (also available for interviews)

Jeff Alson (a lead scientist at EPA on the 2012 Clean Car Standards)

Former Senior Engineer and Policy Advisor

EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality (1979-2018)

“The proposal announced today by the administration recaptures most of the pollution reductions that were lost under the Trump administration’s senseless rollback that was finalized last year. I’m also pleased to see U.S. automakers support EV sales targets for 2030 and trust that they will support future standards consistent with these targets.

This is best viewed as a first-step building block for the follow-up rulemaking on post-2026 standards that must transform the U.S. car market to near-100% electric vehicles by the early 2030s in order to meet national climate, air quality, environmental justice, and economic development goals. It is heartening to see that EPA professional staff are once again being allowed to do their jobs using their technical expertise and sound science to protect the planet, public health and the economy.”

Mustafa Santiago Ali, PhD, Vice President of Environmental Justice, Climate, and Community Revitalization, National Wildlife Federation

Former Senior Advisor and Assistant Associate Administrator

EPA Office of Environmental Justice (1992-2017)

“Pollution from fossil fuels contributes to public health harms that disproportionately endanger millions of African American, Latinx, Indigenous and other people adversely impacted by poor air quality in the U.S. because of their proximity to major pollution sources, including highways, ports, and power plants.

Today’s announcement represents a significant step forward in addressing this crisis, addressing climate change, and fulfilling the Biden-Harris administration’s promise to advance environmental justice by reducing and eventually eliminating the ‘sacrifice zones’ that are extracting health and wealth from those often unseen and unheard.

We still have much work to do, including accelerating the timeline for affordable electric transportation. It is essential that vulnerable communities and their authentic allies ensure that those resources actually make it to the spaces and places that need them the most to ensure that the public health impacts that have plagued our communities for decades are finally eliminated.”

ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NETWORK (EPN)

The [Environmental Protection Network](#) (EPN) is comprised of over 550 EPA alumni volunteering their time to protect the integrity of EPA, human health, and the environment.

Read EPN’s [Resetting the Course of EPA Report](#) and related papers providing detailed recommendations for [Reducing Air Emissions from Mobile Sources](#) and [Incorporating Environmental Justice in Every Aspect of EPA’s Work](#).

###

MEDIA CONTACT

[Caren Kagan Evans](#)

ECI Communications

(301) 467-6337 (cell)

FOR URGENT INTERVIEW REQUESTS, PLEASE CALL OR TEXT