

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **State and Local Clean Air Agencies Recommend Clean Cars and Clean Fuel for Clean Air**

(Washington, DC) – The national association of state and local clean air agencies – NACAA – released a report today showing that the costs of cleaner vehicles and cleaner gasoline are extremely modest while the related public health and environmental benefits are substantial.

“As NACAA’s report reveals, reducing sulfur in gasoline would not only enable the use of improved emissions control technology on new cars and light trucks, it would also result in an overnight reduction in emissions from the existing fleet – on the order of approximately 260,000 tons of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) – equivalent to taking 33 million cars off our nation’s roads in 2017 when the program begins,” said S. William Becker, NACAA’s Executive Director. “I don’t know of any other air pollution control strategy out there that can provide emissions reductions as significant and immediate as this,” he added.

NACAA also found that the additional cost to consumers of the cleaner gasoline would be less than a penny a gallon, and the additional cost of a cleaner ‘Tier 3’ vehicle would be similarly low, at about \$150. By 2030, the Tier 3 program recommended by NACAA would cut emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, volatile organic compounds and carbon dioxide by about 29, 38 and 26 percent, respectively.

*Cleaner Cars, Cleaner Fuel, Cleaner Air: The Need for and Benefits of Tier 3 Vehicle and Fuel Regulations* is intended to inform the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) effort to develop tougher federal vehicle and fuel standards that will reduce emissions into the air and lead to cleaner, more healthful air.

In June, NACAA recommended that EPA adopt a Tier 3 program that includes vehicle emissions standards consistent with California’s Low-Emission Vehicle III (LEV III) program and an average gasoline sulfur content of 10 parts per million.

As state and local air agencies face, or prepare to face, the challenge of attaining the health-based standards for ozone, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide, and continue to grapple with ubiquitous toxic air pollution, an effective program to tackle emissions from cars and light trucks – which are key contributors to all of these problems – is critical. NACAA, therefore, continues to urge that EPA take full advantage of the opportunity to establish a meaningful and effective Tier 3 program to help states and localities meet their clean air obligations. The agency is expected to propose the so-called “Tier 3” program by the end of this year.

NACAA is the national association of clean air agencies in 50 states and territories and more than 165 metropolitan areas across the country. For further information, visit our web site at [www.4cleanair.org](http://www.4cleanair.org).

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