

As Prepared for Delivery
Comments of Mariela Ruacho
Clean Air Advocacy Manager
American Lung Association
On
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Reconsideration of 2009 Endangerment Finding and Greenhouse Gas Vehicle Standards
Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2025-0194
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Hello, my name is Mariela Ruacho, I am the Senior Clean Air Advocacy Manager for the American Lung Association in California. I am here to speak in opposition to EPA's proposal to repeal the Endangerment Finding and Greenhouse Gas Standards for vehicles.

EPA is not providing enough time and space for people and communities to adequately respond to these two proposed repeals. These are drastic departures from the norm and while we strongly oppose them, we note that they should at least be multiple separate rulemakings versus rolling back multiple policies at once.

Transportation is the single biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. and transitioning to cleaner vehicles with stronger pollution controls is a critical part of addressing climate change. EPA's own inventory shows that the transportation sector is the largest source at 28 percent of greenhouse gas emissions coming from cars and trucks subject to the existing standards. Rolling back these and other rules related to the Endangerment Finding will impact the health of communities across the US, especially those most vulnerable.

Our State of the Air report found that over 80 percent of Californians live with the most polluted air in the United States, with California cities dominated the top 10 lists for ozone and both short-term and annual particle pollution.

Greenhouse gas emissions have caused the climate crisis and associated health emergencies. California already has unhealthy air and climate change is only worsening the air we breathe. California, like other states and countries, has experienced droughts, floods, wildfires, and extreme heat events. These climate events worsen ozone and particle pollution, causing medical emergencies, such as asthma attacks, heart attacks, strokes, and other respiratory issues on top of existing pollution challenges.

These rules are important to mitigate the effects of our climate crisis and improve public health by utilizing clean and current technology to reduce greenhouse gases from light-, medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

Lastly, I oppose EPA moving forward with the repeal of the Endangerment Finding and Clean Vehicles because of the multiple benefits and science backed evidence the rules have brought to communities. Repealing these rules goes against EPA's mission and will harm public health now and far into the future. Thank you.