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**Sierra Club, Arizona Public Health Association, Arizona Public Interest Research Group Education Fund, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, Republicans for Environmental Protection, and Environment Arizona Celebrate Release of Clean Car Standards**  
State leadership results in cleaner cars and oil savings on a national scale

*(Phoenix, AZ)* Today environmental protection and public health organizations in Arizona celebrate the release of clean car standards by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA). The standards will significantly reduce our dependence on oil and cut global warming pollution. Based on state clean car standards passed by California and 13 other states, including Arizona, the standards released today will raise the fuel economy of our new cars and trucks to 35.5 miles per gallon in 2016, cutting their emissions by 30 percent. Notably, these standards mark the first time EPA is regulating greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.

“The Sierra Club’s Grand Canyon Chapter celebrates the administration for releasing historic clean car standards that will significantly reduce our dependence on oil and cut greenhouse gas emissions,” said Sandy Bahr, Chapter Director for the Sierra Club in Arizona. “These standards show that states such as Arizona can help lead the nation in helping to reduce our dependence on oil and cut global warming pollution. Our state joined California and 13 other states in demanding clean cars. Today not only does our state win, the entire nation wins.”

These final standards show that the Clean Air Act is an effective tool for curbing greenhouse gas pollution. Congress and people throughout Arizona must show their support for EPA and oppose efforts to weaken the Clean Air Act.

“Throughout the stakeholder process in Arizona, utilities, businesses, public health, consumer and environmental organizations and Arizonans from across the state pointed to the Clean Cars Program as a fundamental component to reducing global warming emissions in our state,” stated Diane E. Brown, Executive Director of the Arizona PIRG Education Fund. “Arizona should be proud for joining with other states to spark the federal government to act.”

“Cleaner cars on the road will save us pollution in the air and money at the pump. This is a terrific example of the Clean Air Act’s benefits in action,” said Bret Fanshaw with Environment Arizona. “We urge Arizona’s delegation to oppose attacks on the Clean Air Act in Congress this year that would block this progress.”

“Cars built under these new standards will save nearly two billion barrels of oil and keep 950 million metric tons of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere,” said Barbara Burkholder with the Arizona Public Health Association. “Transportation in Arizona contributes about 38 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions, which is why we worked so hard to pass state clean car standards here in 2008, demonstrating that states can lead the way on cutting emissions.”

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