

Arriving At The Tipping Point

It is time for EPA to grant California the waiver to require clean cars!

There is now a scientific consensus that global warming is occurring, and that human activity is playing a large role.

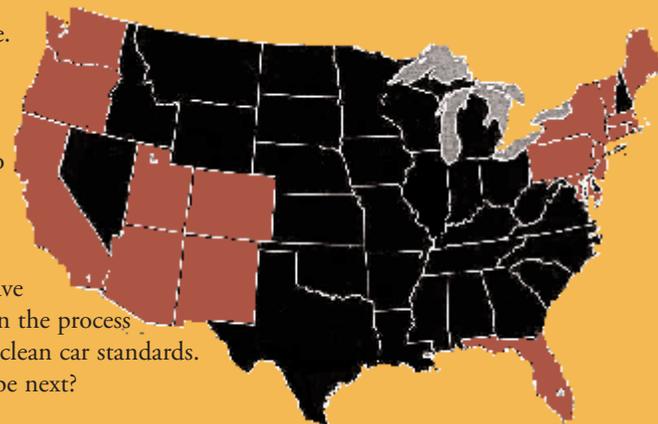
As the globe traps heat, it impacts the climate, leading to droughts, extreme weather, and rising sea levels, endangering our safety, economy, and national security. The biggest single step we can take to preventing these threats and curbing global warming is to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide from our cars and light trucks. Sadly, the United States, the largest emitter of global warming pollution, hasn't taken meaningful steps to clean up our autos in more than thirty years. However, clean car programs in numerous states and Canada may soon force automakers to produce cleaner cars.

The Top Five Global Warming Polluters:

1. The United States
2. China
3. Russia
4. Japan
5. America's Cars and Light Trucks

Cars and SUVs - Driving Global Warming

America's cars and light trucks emit 20% of the nation's greenhouse gas emissions, the heat-trapping gases that cause global warming. For decades, the federal government has done nothing to reduce the global warming pollution of our automobiles, and so now states are taking action. Sixteen states are poised to adopt California's clean car standards, which will push automakers to cut emissions of heat-trapping gases by 30% by 2016 from all cars and light trucks. Additionally, Canada recently struck a deal with automakers that will create similar reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Once these states and Canada pass and fully implement these protections, more than one-third of all new vehicles in the North American auto market will have to meet these tougher emission rules. This means that automakers will have to build clean cars for part of the country and normal, dirtier cars for the rest of the nation, which will be difficult and expensive. As more states adopt these standards, car companies will reach the tipping point where it is too expensive to build two sets of cars, and will find it easier and cheaper to build one clean set for the entire country.



Sixteen states have adopted or are in the process of adopting the clean car standards. Will your state be next?

