

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AIR AND RADIATION ADMINISTRATION**

**Response to Comments**

On the Proposed Amendments to COMAR 26.11.43 Advanced Clean Trucks Program.

Public Hearing Held on October 23, 2024

**Purpose of Hearing:** The purpose of the hearing was to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to Regulation .04 under COMAR 26.11.43 Advanced Clean Trucks Program.

The purpose of this proposed action is to extend the lead-time manufacturers are eligible to earn credits under this program by an additional year.

**Date and Location:** The virtual public hearing was held by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) on October 23, 2024, at 10 a.m. GoToMeeting at <https://meet.goto.com/920902101> – Event Access Code - 920-902-101.

**Attendance:** Justin Smith of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) served as the hearing officer. Other MDE attendees were Kathy Daristotle, Shanaya Herbert, Carolyn Jones, Justin Mabrey, Ayana Miranda, Kathryn Seaman, Tim Shepherd, and Kelsey Sisko. The hearing was also attended by industry trade groups, environmental organizations, and interested citizens. A complete list of attendees is provided at the end of this document.

**Statement:** The Department's statement was read by Ms. Shanaya Herbert, Regulatory and Compliance Engineer of the Mobile Sources Control Program of the Air and Radiation Administration, MDE. A transcript of the meeting has been prepared by For the Record, Inc., located in White Plains, MD.

**Comments and Responses:**

Seven members of the public testified at the hearing, and four comments were emailed to the Department. All comments received by MDE were in support of the regulation amendment. Below is a summary of, and response to, the comments and testimony.

**Comment:** Several commenters expressed concern over the amount of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions emitted by medium and heavy-duty (MHD) trucks, noting that the public health of Maryland citizens needs to be improved.

**Response:** The Department appreciates the support and agrees with the commenters.

**Comment:** Two commenters noted that the technology is available to support a transition to zero emission trucks in Maryland, specifically that twenty-two different medium heavy duty (MHD) zero emission truck models are available in the market.

**Response:** The Department agrees with the commenters. The proposed amendment would encourage manufacturers to sell the available truck models in Maryland.

**Comment:** Two commenters expressed the importance of charging infrastructure, highlighting the usefulness of a Needs Assessment and accessibility of charging infrastructure.

**Response:** The Department acknowledges the need for a Needs Assessment as required by the MD Clean Trucks Act. The assessment is outside the scope of this regulation amendment.

**Comment:** One commenter noted that the proposed amendment will make compliance easier for manufacturers and ensure the Maryland truck market will not be at a disadvantage compared to other ACT states.

**Response:** The Department appreciates the support and agrees with the commenter.

**Comment:** Several commenters noted that the regulation amendment would further reduce GHG emissions and drive help industry grow.

**Response:** The Department appreciates the support and agrees with the commenters.

**Comprehensive List of Hearing Attendees**

- Alex M.
- Alissa Burger
- Ayanna Miranda
- Brian O’Malley
- Carolyn Jones
- Court Reporter Melissa Dunn
- Jackie Yeager
- Jeff Johnson
- Justin Mabrey
- Justin Smith
- Kathryn Seaman
- Kathy Daristotle
- Kelly Cwik
- Kelsey Sisko
- Kevin Shen
- Lindsey Mendelson
- Marcia Ways
- Neda Deylami
- Ramon Palencia-Calvo
- Shanaya Herbert
- Tim Shepherd
- Tom Van Heeke
- 2 phone callers