

Comments of Paul Billings – **As Prepared for Delivery**
National Senior Vice President, Public Policy
American Lung Association
On The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Proposed
Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and
Medium-Duty Vehicles

May 9, 2023

Good morning, thank you for holding this hearing, I am Paul Billings - **PAUL BILLINGS** - National Senior Vice President, Public Policy for the American Lung Association. The American Lung Association supports the multi-pollutant proposed rule for light duty and medium duty vehicles and urges EPA to finalize the most protective rule possible this year.

Today I'd like to focus on one important component of the proposal – more stringent standards for particulate matter from gasoline vehicles. Gasoline vehicles will be on the road for many years into the future as the nation transitions to zero emission vehicles. Internal combustion engines will continue to pollute the air and people who live near roadways will continue to bear a disproportionate health burden from this pollution. We also know that people that live near major roadways are more likely to be people of color and lower income. Reducing pollution from these vehicles is an important health equity issue.

In June 2022, the Health Effects Institute published a review of 353 research papers regarding traffic pollution-related health effects and concluded with a moderate to high level of confidence that exposure to traffic pollution is linked with all-cause, circulatory, ischemic heart disease, and lung cancer mortality; asthma onset in both children and adults; and acute lower respiratory infections in children. Particulate matter is a major component of traffic-related air pollution.

Research shows that particulate matter air pollution kills tens of thousands of people each year and it kills people of color at higher rates than white Americans. Extensive research has linked particle pollution exposure to mortality in infants; hospital admissions for cardiovascular disease; hospital admissions and emergency department visits for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); risk of lung cancer; increased severity of asthma attacks and hospitalization for asthma among children; and an increased risk of Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease and other dementias later in life.

EPA is proposing a Tier 4 particulate matter standard of 0.5 mg/mi for light duty and medium duty vehicles with the requirement that the standard be met across three test cycles, including a cold temperature test to ensure robust emissions control across a range of in-use driving conditions. The American Lung Association strongly supports

this proposal which EPA projects will lead to the widespread deployment of gasoline particulate filters. This lifesaving pollution control technology is being used in Europe, China and India. And it is being installed at US plants on new vehicles exported for sale in these markets.

In addition to strict particulate standards, we support Alternative 1 as a minimum for greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening the NMOG + NOx emissions standards for both light duty and medium duty vehicles. We will provide additional comments on these levels in our written comments.

Thank you.