

Health Impact of the Clean Fuel Standard Legislation in HB 41

1 in 7 New Mexicans suffers from a respiratory illness
Asthma and COPD are taking a toll on our residents

The Clean Fuel Standard will decrease ground-level ozone levels from transportation fuels that contribute to respiratory illness in New Mexico.

- There are several kinds of air pollutants regulated under the Clean Air Act. Ground-level ozone is one of them. This is not the good ozone in the higher earth atmosphere, but the harmful stuff at the ground-level that we do not want to breathe. The combustion of traditional fossil fuels contributes to this kind of pollution.
- There are many counties throughout the state that are surpassing what we know is a healthy level. A healthy level is under 0.70 parts per million. However, places like Bernalillo, Doña Ana and Eddy Counties are exceeding that healthy level.
- According to the National Institutes for Health, the annual per person cost of treating asthma is \$3,266 per person. That's close to 10% of the annual median income of New Mexicans. That's 10% that can't be spent on food, rent, bus fare, a car, or other necessities – not to mention missed work and school days.
- We simply can't afford to keep using the massive amounts of high-carbon transportation fuels contributing to this problem – especially with the new clean fuel technologies coming out every day.
- Furthermore, if we continue to exceed healthy ozone levels, we could come under a blanket of additional Federal mandates. A Clean Fuel Standard will help prevent this Federal interference.
- If implemented, the Clean Fuel Standard will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector by 16.2 million tons by 2030 – that's the equivalent of 2 million cars off the road.



New Mexico Environment Department

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