

NEWS RELEASE

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Air District joins fight to stop USPS from replacing bulk of delivery fleet with fossil-fuel-powered vehicles

Current USPS fleet plan would lock in decades of air pollution & GHG emissions

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced today that it has joined the State of California’s lawsuit against the United States Postal Service to stop the agency from replacing 90 percent of its delivery fleet with fossil-fuel-powered vehicles.

More than a dozen other states, the District of Columbia and the City of New York have also joined the lawsuit filed today with the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. The lawsuit asserts the Postal Service was obligated to follow a process mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, but failed to do so.

“The Postal Service has a tremendous opportunity to electrify its delivery fleet to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases, but has inexplicably chosen a fossil fuel future instead,” said Damian Breen, senior deputy executive officer of operations/enforcement at the Air District. “The Postal Service’s current path sustains real and lasting health impacts for local communities – many of whom are communities of color that are already overburdened by air pollution. The State of California, the Air District and our partners are simply seeking to enforce the Postal Service’s obligation to follow processes mandated by federal law.”

Tailpipe emissions from the 5.3 million vehicles in the Bay Area account for approximately 28 percent of the region’s GHG emissions and a significant portion of other pollutants – 31 percent of carbon monoxide and 12 percent of nitrogen oxides.

As of the end of 2020, the Bay Area is home to more than 214,000 zero-emission vehicles and more than 29,000 public or shared EV charging stations. California has set a goal of five million electric vehicles sold by 2030, with the sale of new gasoline-powered conventional light-duty vehicles phased out by 2035. The Air District has set a target that 90 percent of vehicles in the Bay Area should be zero emissions by 2050 with an interim target of 1.5 million zero-emission vehicles by 2030. These goals are critical in helping California achieve its long-term target of achieving carbon neutrality by 2045.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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