

Environment & Energy

North Carolina Governor Orders Boost of Zero-Emission Trucks

By Zach Bright

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- State environmental department directed to make plan
 - Would require zero-emission truck, bus sales targets
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North Carolina will develop a clean trucks program aiming to boost growth and equity in the zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicle market under an executive order from Gov. Roy Cooper (D).

The order directs the state Department of Environmental Quality to develop an Advanced Clean Trucks program to make zero-emission trucks and buses available for purchase in the state and propose the plan to the state's Environmental Management Commission for adoption.

"North Carolina is already a national hub for truck and bus manufacturing and supply chain development," Cooper said in a statement, "and we should not miss the opportunity to lead the market-driven transition already underway to cleaner and increasingly cheaper zero-emission technologies."

Environmental advocates and dozens of companies wrote in support of a clean trucks program.

A clean trucks program would require manufacturers to sell an increasing percentage of zero-emission trucks and buses over time. Sales targets would be designed to drive investment in electric charging infrastructure, and credits would be available for companies that can't immediately meet goals.

Under the order, North Carolina's Department of Health and Human Services will publish an analysis of environmental justice impacts of transportation-related air pollutants and incorporate air quality and environmental justice metrics into the agency's Environmental Health Data Dashboard.

Cooper's latest order aims to attain goals in an executive order from January, including air pollution reductions, job growth, state climate targets, environmental justice objectives, according to a release from the governor's office.

It also builds off a multistate memorandum of understanding to increase the size of the medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicle market by achieving sales shares of 30% by 2030 and 100% by 2050.

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 **Documents**

Order
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