TCI Stakeholder Comments

We find ourselves in a Climate Emergency with a shrinking window of time to take the bold initiatives necessary for averting disaster. Transportation is a significant source of carbon pollution, around 40%. I thank Governor Baker for being a leader in pulling together a multistate initiative to reduce emissions from transportation.

My main concern about the MOU that I have studied is that the maximum reduction modeled is not sufficient. We need to be aiming for at least a 50% reduction by 2030. I hope that Massachusetts pushes for the highest possible initial reduction in emissions. It is also important that plans to monitor and document emissions reductions are clear and well founded so that the need for TCI to be strengthened at the three-year checkpoint will be clear.

I appreciate the need for each TCI jurisdiction to independently determine how to invest TCI proceeds to best meet the unique needs of their residents, workers, and businesses. However, I also believe that the draft MOU should include principles to ensure that investments deliver pollution reduction, improved air quality, increased sustainable transportation options in an equitable manner, as well as consideration for what is needed to protect the most vulnerable (but urban and rural) from the added costs they will have.

I am the grandmother of three young children with a fourth grandchild due in June. I have dedicated myself to working in all ways possible so that they will be able to have a livable world in which they can flourish. The time for bold action is now. We can't wait any longer. I am on the steering committee of the local grassroots climate action group. I have been our liaison so our local Sunrise Movement chapter. Youth are letting us know that we need to consider their future in all our decisions. You can count on active support for the boldest plan you can propose from a multigenerational contingent.

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