



For Immediate Release
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New federal clean car rules a power shift for consumers, clean air, and Ohio's auto industry

Ohio consumers to burn 419 million fewer gallons of gasoline, pocket \$1.1 billion in savings, cut carbon pollution by 3.9 million metric tons

Statement of OEC Deputy Director Jack Shaner on today's announcement by the U.S. Department of Transportation and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that the federal government is setting the first ever national rules curbing greenhouse gas emissions, mandating the U.S. car and light-truck fleet reach an average fuel efficiency of 35.5 miles per gallon by 2016:

"This can be a real game-changer for Ohio's auto industry. Consumers will soon have two big, green reasons to flock back to American-made cars: more cash in the pockets and less pollution out the tailpipe.

"Under the new standards, Ohio motorists are projected to consume 419 million fewer gallons of gasoline and save \$1.1 billion in fuel costs. This fuel savings will enable Ohio to avoid 3.9 million metric tons of carbon emissions—the equivalent of removing three-quarters of a million cars from the road.

"In fact, Ohio is projected to top all Midwest states in fuel, dollar, and pollution savings.

"Today's announcement is good news for Ohio's auto industry—its assembly plants and suppliers – which remain a big cog in Ohio's economy. New car buyers are looking increasingly at fuel economy, especially as the economy begins to recover and prices at the pump begin to climb upward.

"We're confident that Yankee ingenuity will rise to the occasion and our domestic auto industry will achieve the new fuel economy standards. Using less oil, saving money, and producing less pollution. This is good news for America, and especially the Buckeye State."

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The mission of the Ohio Environmental Council (OEC) is to secure healthy air, land, and water for all who call Ohio home. The OEC is Ohio's leading advocate for fresh air, clean water, and sustainable land use. The OEC has a 40-year history of innovation, pragmatism, and success. Using legislative initiatives, legal action, scientific principles, and statewide partnerships, the OEC secures a healthier environment for Ohio's families and communities. For more information, visit www.theOEC.org.