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Business Group: A Strong Washington Clean Air Rule Could Boost Economy, Protect Environment

SEATTLE (January 6, 2016) – The Washington State Department of Ecology today released a draft of a Clean Air Rule which would set limits on the carbon pollution driving climate change.

The rule requires the state’s largest emitters of greenhouse gases to significantly lower emissions by 2035. This would be achieved via various compliance methods – including by relying on low-carbon innovations from the state’s world-class entrepreneurial community.

The following is a statement from Mark Liffmann, a Washington state software executive and director of the Pacific Northwest chapter of the national nonpartisan business group Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2):

“We need to send a strong, clear market signal to the most innovative businesses in Washington state that we need their leadership, right now, to transition to a cleaner, stronger economy.

“From the Paris climate conference to the Puget Sound, businesses are playing big roles in addressing the economic costs of climate change – and in seizing clean energy’s economic opportunities.

“Encouraging more clean energy investment in Washington would foster the kind of innovative business thinking that’s become a hallmark of our state.

“We look forward to reviewing the draft rule and further participating in the rulemaking process. We must ensure the final rule helps grow Washington’s economy while protecting our environment.”

To see E2’s latest quarterly U.S. clean energy jobs report, [please see here](#).

In 2014, Washington state ranked No. 32 in the nation in clean energy and clean transportation job announcements – suggesting there’s much room for improvement.

As E2 has seen in other states, using a state's full authority to create strong, stable, and regionally consistent policies – like the Clean Air Rule – can drive clean energy investment and foster job creation.

To interview business leaders in Washington state who support implementing a strong Clean Air Rule, please reach out to the press contacts listed above.

For more on the Clean Air Rule, [please see here](#).

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***Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)** is a national, nonpartisan group of business leaders, investors, and professionals from every sector of the economy who advocate for smart policies that are good for the economy and good for the environment. Our members have founded or funded more than 2,500 companies, created more than 600,000 jobs, and manage more than \$100 billion in venture and private equity capital. For more information, see www.e2.org or follow us on Twitter at [@e2org](https://twitter.com/e2org).*