June 30, 2021

Dear Governor Cooper,

As business leaders with an interest in electric transportation solutions, we urge your continued support and leadership to accelerate the electrification of medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) vehicles in North Carolina to protect our economy, energy security, public health, and climate.

**MHD electrification supports economic development.** The future is electric. Multiple vehicle manufacturers have committed to full electrification and supported over $460 billion in global private investment. The federal government has renewed its focus on electrifying transportation. The MHD sector is a critical part of this transformation and is essential to maintaining U.S. competitiveness in the global automobile market. Hundreds of thousands of jobs are at stake as the United States competes with China and other nations to be a leader in the EV supply chain. We have a finite window of opportunity to leverage state and federal policy action to preserve American leadership and the jobs that come with it. The addition of EV Company Arrival to the North Carolina landscape is an example of what we hope is more to come.

**MHD electrification is important for energy security.** The United States is the world’s largest consumer of petroleum, accounting for one-fifth of the world’s daily supply. We spend $81 billion per year just to protect oil supplies in the Persian Gulf. Our dependence on this volatile commodity, which currently fuels 91% of the transportation sector, jeopardizes U.S. economic sovereignty and skews foreign policy priorities. Electricity is ubiquitous, domestically produced and far more stably priced than petroleum-based fuels.

**MHD electrification cuts emissions and improves public health.** MHD vehicles represent just 11% of vehicles on the road, but they emit 29% of greenhouse gases from all vehicles, in addition to high levels of air pollutants. These emissions drive climate change and threaten public health. Disadvantaged communities located along transportation corridors are disproportionately impacted.
We applaud you for taking the first step by committing North Carolina to the Multi-State MHD Zero Emission Vehicle Memorandum of Understanding, pledging that at least 30% of all new trucks and buses sold in North Carolina will be zero emission vehicles by 2030, and 100% by 2050. To meet these commitments, we urge you to support the following actions:

- Support incentives, utility investments and state targets that will accelerate the electrification of trucks that travel along our highways and through our neighborhoods to deliver goods to our homes and businesses.
- Convene an MHD electrification working group that includes North Carolina’s largest commercial fleets.
- Electrify public transit and school buses to provide clean, healthy ways for North Carolina’s residents to travel to and from school, work, and home.
- Invest in the development of MHD charging infrastructure to ensure that North Carolina does not miss out on the economic opportunities afforded by the electrification of transportation.

Sincerely,

Heidi Sickler  
Director of Policy  
AMPLY Power

Suzanne Merkelson  
Public Policy & Gov. Affairs  
Arrival

Brian Van Batavia  
Technical Director  
Bollinger Motors

Carine Dumit  
Director, Market Development  
EVgo

Duncan McIntyre  
CEO  
Highland Electric Transportation

Tim Reeser  
CEO  
Lightning eMotors

Patrick Gervais  
VP, Marketing and Communications  
Lion Electric

Chris Kerzich  
Director of Gov. Relations & Corporate Affairs  
Lordstown Motors

Jim Wells  
Chief Supply Chain Officer  
Nestlé USA

Thomas Topolski  
Executive Vice President  
Parsons

JoAnn Covington  
Chief Legal Officer and Head of Government Relations  
Proterra

Chris Nevers  
Senior Director, Environmental Policy  
Rivian

Chris King  
Sr. Vice President, eMobility  
Siemens

Jonathan Miller  
Senior Vice President  
Volvo Group North America  
(Volvo Trucks North America, Mack Trucks, Nova Bus)

Dakota Semler  
CEO  
Xos Trucks

Kadija Locklear  
Regulatory Legal Specialist  
BioMason, Raleigh

David Meeker  
Co-Owner  
Carpenter Development, State of Beer, Trophy Brewing, Young Hearts Distilling, Raleigh

Don Rains  
Owner  
Community Hardware, Princeton

Chris Hess  
VP of Public Relations  
Eaton Corporation, Charlotte

Ashley Mattison  
Owner  
Fifth Season Gardening Co., Carrboro

Bryan Williams  
Owner  
Gizmo Brew Works, Raleigh
Robert Whitehead, CEO
Green Arrow Labs, Morrisville

Maytée Sanz, Owner
Griffin Roofing & Construction, Matthews

Kevin Cross, Owner
Kevin Cross Essentials, Charlotte

Stephen Burnett
Chairman and Co-Founder
Koolbridge Solar, Wrightsville Beach

Mark Marcoplos, President
Marcoplos Construction, Chapel Hill

Mike Ruck
Chief Water Officer, VP Rain Water Solutions, Raleigh

Anita Knight
Sr. Manager, Engineering and Information Services Roanoke Electric Cooperative, Aulander

cc:
Phil Berger
Pres. Pro Tempore, Senate District 30 North Carolina Senate

Tim Moore
Speaker of the House, House District 11 North Carolina House of Representatives

Dan Blue
Minority Leader, Senate District 14 North Carolina Senate

Robert Revies
Minority Leader, House District 54, North Carolina House of Representatives

Eric Boyette
Secretary North Carolina Dept. of Transportation

Machelle Bake Sanders
Secretary North Carolina Dept. of Commerce

Pamela Cashwell
Secretary North Carolina Dept. of Administration

John Nicholson
Interim Secretary North Carolina Dept. of Environmental Quality

Dionne Delli-Gatti
Clean Energy Director North Carolina Dept. of Environmental Quality

Jeremy Tarr
Sr. Advisor for Climate Change Policy Office of the Governor of North Carolina