



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact:
Russell Long, 415-544-0790 x 18

California's Groundbreaking Vehicle Global Warming Law Attacked by Automobile Industry

San Francisco, CA – The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, which includes Ford and Toyota, filed suit today against the State of California challenging the State's right to protect its citizens from the harmful affects of greenhouse gas emissions. The Alliance is challenging California's Vehicle Global Warming Law, passed in 2002, which requires automobile manufacturers to cut emissions of greenhouse gases from new passenger vehicles 30% by 2016.

"This is an incredibly frustrating day for people who want cleaner cars. The auto industry has an awful legacy of fighting improvements to protect people's health or the environment, and today is no exception. In 1994, they said it would cost \$800 per car to reduce smog from California's cars. The real price tag turned out to be just \$80. So its the same old distortions," said Russell Long, Executive Director of Bluewater Network, the group that conceived the idea of regulating greenhouse gas emissions from new passenger vehicles sold in California.

Automobile companies can comply with the law by using existing technologies, including changes to engines, air conditioning and renewable fuels. California's Air Resources Board determined the law's requirements to be feasible and cost effective. "What we are seeing today is the typical scorched earth tactics that automakers have used for a half century to slow down the introduction of seat belts, air bags, catalytic converters, and other emissions controls," said Dr. Long.

"We conceived this law to protect Californian's from the harmful effects of greenhouse gas emissions," said Leslie S. Caplan, Attorney and Global Warming Campaign Manager at Bluewater Network. "Californians have clearly demanded cleaner cars. Instead of delivering what the market wants, the car companies are suing the State. Apparently, automobile manufacturers just don't want to change."

Dr. Long, who drives a Prius commented, "It's a huge disappointment and a major blot on Toyota's record that they've joined the typical scorched earth tactics used by Ford, GM and the other automakers."

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Bluewater Network is a national environmental organization that provides visionary leadership to ensure our planet's health and survival. Bluewater acts as a catalyst, influencing the creation of cleaner cars, fleets of marine vessels that transport without polluting, and National Parks free of the habitat destruction caused by jetskis and snowmobiles. Strategic and effective, Bluewater Network educates industry and policy makers about ways that we can dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions, air quality impacts that damage human health, and the pollution from motorized transportation that now threatens air, land, and sea. More than 20,000 members and e-activists around the nation have already joined Bluewater Network. For more information, please visit <http://www.bluewaternet.org>.

Bluewater Network ~ 311 California, Suite 510 ~ San Francisco, CA 94104
www.bluewaternetwork.org ~ bluewater@bluewaternetwork.org
T: 415.544-0790, F: 415.544.0796