



February 8, 2023

Education, Energy & the Environment Committee

Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing

11 Bladen St.

Annapolis, MD 21401

SB224 Department of the Environment - Zero-Emission Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles - Regulations (Clean Trucks Act of 2023)

Position: Favorable

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee:

Nikola Corporation appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB224, Department of the Environment - Zero-Emission Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles - Regulations (Clean Trucks Act of 2023). This measure requires the Maryland Department of the Environment to adopt, by reference, California's Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) rule by December 1, 2023. As a company committed to decarbonizing heavy transport, we believe the aggressive standards set by the ACT rule will go a long way toward advancing Maryland's objectives regarding greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions, improving air quality, and ensuring a just transition with green, equitable, high-quality jobs for Maryland residents.

GHG emissions from transportation account for about 28 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, with commercial trucks playing a key role contributing 23% of the total carbon emissions from the transportation sector, following passenger vehicles¹. The transportation sector is Maryland's largest source of GHG emissions, accounting for more than 24% of carbon emissions in the state.²

As a global leader in zero-emissions transportation and infrastructure, Nikola firmly believes that the electrification of medium and heavy-duty vehicles in the transportation sector is critical to reducing carbon emissions. Nikola and other manufacturers in the sector stand ready, with numerous zero-

¹ <https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/fast-facts-transportation-greenhouse-gas-emissions>

² <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/ClimateChange/Pages/GreenhouseGasInventory.aspx>



emission medium and heavy-duty vehicle and charging offerings available now. Nikola began serial production of the Tre BEV in March 2022. The Tre BEV is a cabover battery electric truck for short-haul metro-regional applications with a maximum range of up to 330 miles. We expect to begin delivery of our longer-range hydrogen fuel cell truck, the Tre FCEV, in quarter 4 of 2023, and recently announced the creation of a new global brand, HYL A, to encompass the company's energy products for producing, distributing, and dispensing hydrogen to fuel its FCEV zero-emission trucks.

Nikola is dedicated to growing its zero-emission transportation and infrastructure operations in Maryland. The adoption of California's ACT will play a critical role in cultivating and accelerating market and fleet adoption of zero-emission and low-carbon transportation technology. Moreover, if Maryland adopts the ACT rule, the state will be well-positioned to build a market centered around the transition to clean fuels, improving public health, and will also help the state achieve its climate goals in a timely manner.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our testimony and urge a favorable report on SB224.

Thank you,

Will Higgins

State and Local Affairs Manager, Eastern US

Nikola Corporation