INTRODUCTION

THE MULTI-STATE ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE (ZEV) TASK FORCE IS PLEASED TO PRESENT THIS NEW ACTION PLAN TO PROPEL RAPID ADOPTION OF THE CLEANEST PASSENGER CARS ON THE ROAD TODAY, INCLUDING BATTERY-ELECTRIC, PLUG-IN HYBRID ELECTRIC, AND FUEL CELL ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

The Multi-State ZEV Task Force was formed in 2013 when the governors of eight states—California, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont—signed a Memorandum of Understanding committing to coordinated action to support successful implementation of state ZEV programs. These programs require automakers to deliver increasing numbers of zero-emission vehicles to the states between now and 2020.

The decision to form a collaborative multi-state initiative sprang from the states’ recognition that regulations alone would not be sufficient to achieve rapid expansion of the market for electric vehicles.

The first Multi-State ZEV Action Plan, released in May 2014, served the Task Force well. It guided many initiatives to support growth in the early market for zero-emission vehicle purchase incentives, to grant programs that fund deployment of charging and hydrogen fueling stations, to new partnerships with automakers to educate consumers about the many benefits of driving electric.

The Task Force states also formed important international partnerships to promote transportation electrification.

The states were founding members of the International ZEV Alliance, a collaboration of 14 North American and international and subnational governments formed in 2013 to accelerate the global transition to ZEVs.

Now it’s time for a new Action Plan to accelerate ZEV adoption by mainstream consumers. This Plan was developed by the states (New Jersey joined in 2014) and addresses priorities for action through 2021.

In the past decade, light-duty passenger vehicles are the single largest contributor to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and a significant source of particulate matter that contribute to ground level ozone and other air pollution problems adversely impacting public health in the region. Transportation electrification is essential to achieving near- and long-term state and national goals, and effectively combating climate change.

Clean transportation will also deliver substantial energy security and economic benefits to cleaner electricity derived from renewable energy and other lower-carbon sources replaces imported gasoline and diesel transportation fuel. 1

* This Plan is downloadable (with link) at www.mnsum.org