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Letter to the Editor
By Louise Eddy, Incoming President, Eastern New York Lumber Dealers Association

To the Editor,

As the incoming President of the Eastern New York Lumber Dealers Association, I want to highlight the serious challenges posed by the Advanced Clean Truck rule which is set to take effect in two months. While we all support the goal of sustainability, the realities of this regulation in New York demand a more thoughtful approach. We cannot start the transition to all electric trucks before the technology and infrastructure are ready.

Electric trucks currently lack the range needed for the long delivery routes typical in Eastern New York. Many of our deliveries cover significant distances, and the available electric models simply can't handle these routes without frequent recharging. Compounding the problem is the lack of public charging infrastructure for commercial trucks in our region. This makes the transition to electric vehicles not only impractical but unworkable. Our businesses can't rely on technology that doesn't have the necessary support in place.

The costs of this transition will also be steep. With electric trucks requiring more time for recharging and facing performance limitations, delivery delays are inevitable. These delays will increase transportation costs, which will, in turn, drive up prices for builders and homeowners. Given the housing affordability issues we're already facing in New York, this is the last thing we need.

In short, the state needs to pause the implementation of this rule until these critical issues—vehicle range, charging infrastructure, and cost impacts—are addressed. We can't afford to gamble with the supply chains that our communities rely on. Let's find a way to move toward clean energy that doesn't put our businesses and local economies at risk.

Sincerely,

Louise Eddy
Incoming President
Eastern New York Lumber Dealers Association