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PRESS RELEASE

COALITION FOR CLEAN AIR SUES LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO EXPAND EV CHARGING STATIONS IN CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles, CA – November 19, 2025 – The Coalition for Clean Air (CCA) today announced it has filed lawsuits against two cities and one county asking courts to order the adoption of electric vehicle (EV) charging station permit streamlining procedures as required by state law. CCA filed the suits to accelerate the buildout of critical EV infrastructure necessary to save lives through compliance with state clean air laws. CCA sued the cities of **Shafter** and **Compton**, and **Shasta County**.

Approximately 110 cities and counties have taken no action to comply with state laws, including **AB 1236 (2015)** and **AB 970 (2021)**, designed to remove bureaucratic hurdles for EV charging station installation. Another 80 local governments have failed to comply fully with these laws. The deadline for compliance was September 30, 2017.

“For years, state law has required cities and counties to make it fast and easy to build EV charging stations, but far too many local governments have ignored this mandate,” said Dr. Joseph K. Lyou, President & CEO of the Coalition for Clean Air. “Every day that compliance is delayed is another day we fail to protect our communities from truck and car pollution.

“More people die each year from breathing California’s polluted air than are murdered,” continued Lyou, “Our lawsuits will hold cities and counties accountable to improve public health by easing the path for driving zero-emission electric vehicles.”

Focusing on Public Health

California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 1085, allows the public to seek a writ of mandate to compel government agencies to perform their legally required duties. CCA is pursuing these actions to ensure compliance with laws that are critical to the state's transition away from fossil fuels.

The lawsuits are designed to ensure consistency and efficiency in permitting, making it easier and faster for companies to install and operate EV charging stations for cars and trucks throughout the state. CCA seeks to increase the availability of charging infrastructure and boost the adoption of zero-emission vehicles.

"The failure to adopt these streamlining requirements is a major choke point in the state's effort to reduce air pollution," added Lyou. "We hope these lawsuits send a signal to other local governments that their foot-dragging must end. They need to comply with the law and streamline EV charger approvals in their communities."

CCA is represented by attorneys Mitchell Tsai and Kim Lewand Martin and plans to pursue additional lawsuits against other noncompliant local governments as necessary. The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) has published a map of EV permit streamlining status for California cities and counties at <https://business.ca.gov/industries/zero-emission-vehicles/plug-in-readiness/>.

About the Coalition for Clean Air

The Coalition for Clean Air is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting public health, improving air quality, and preventing climate change. Founded in 1971, CCA is California's only statewide organization working exclusively on air quality issues. Visit www.ccair.org for more information.

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