



May 16, 2025

TO: The Illinois Pollution Control Board

RE: R2024-017

To the Illinois Pollution Control Board,

We urge you to consider the long-term injustices of ongoing tailpipe pollution on kids, the elderly and all who live in our urban and rural neighborhoods along main routes for commercial and other truck transportation and daily commuting. We urge you to please consider that without your leadership action to adopt Clean Vehicle Standards, the ongoing particulates pollution, added incidences of air quality problems, and lowered quality of life will continue for too many people across Illinois.

In Peoria, where Central Illinois Healthy Community Alliance is centered, we are very concerned for the ongoing worse air quality, health problems, and adversely impacted quality of life for minority neighborhoods that remain from city redlining that began in the 1930s. This area has vehicle commuter and business transport routes. The South Side of Peoria has a historic and active industrial corridor with a variety of major industries. and routes that are heavily used for commuting to downtown businesses and medical facilities. The overall life expectancy in these neighborhoods for Blacks was 64 years, verses 79 years for whites, as reported in the City of Peoria Joint Commission on Racial Justice & Equity's first report.¹ Tailpipe emissions add to the documented U.S. EPA Environmental Justice Index concerns for the Southside zip code areas for air hazards with Particulate Matter 2.5; ozone Diesel Particulate Matter; Air Toxins Cancer Risk; and Air Toxins Respiratory Health Index concerns.²

CIHCA asks you to please consider the importance of adopting the R2024-017 Proposed Clean Car and Truck Standards: Proposed Section 35 Ill. Admin. Code 242, for the many clean air, environmental, public health, and social justice benefits this will bring. Our state needs a guide to make progress in reducing car and truck vehicle exhaust.

Central Illinois Healthy Community Alliance (CIHCA) is a volunteer group that has been engaged in efforts for over ten years to promote clean air and water. We have been active in multiple areas to assist neighborhoods and communities dealing with concerns about on-going pollution. Our group sees the very serious need to reduce tailpipe pollution across our state. We strongly support the proposed clean car and truck standards because we see the impacts of ongoing tailpipe pollution.

¹ <https://www.peoriacounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11665/Joint-Commission-on-Racial-Justice-and-Equity---2022-Annual-Report-PDF> page 10

² Ibid., page 16

In addition to air quality, environment and public health benefits, there are real economic benefits and opportunities in a transition to cleaner tailpipes. On May 13th, Peoria local news was buzzing about an electric small bus manufacturer coming to our city [<https://www.wcbu.org/local-news/2025-05-13/canadian-ev-manufacturer-announces-first-u-s-assembly-plant-in-greater-peoria>]. The Rivian EV truck and car factory in Normal has over 15,000 workers. Options for electric vehicles are expanding and improvements in mileage and power are happening.

The science is clear that tailpipe pollution from diesel vehicles is dangerous and vehicle exhaust is the top factor in Illinois adding to air pollution. From small towns to large cities across Illinois, diesel trucks and cars and other vehicle tailpipes lower air quality, add to personal health problems like asthma, and impact quality of life.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

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