

From: [Thomas Rinehart](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#)
Subject: [External] A Mandate Made by the Few, Paid for by the Rest
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I've been around long enough to know what it looks like when regular working people are left out of the conversation. This rule? This is one of those times.

Let's call it what it is: a decision being made behind closed doors by folks with money and connections—folks who'll never feel the weight of what they're putting on the rest of us.

Who's going to pay for this mandate? Not them. It's going to be the mechanic in Peoria, the welder in Rockford, the guy delivering lumber in a ten-year-old pickup. It's going to be people who don't have a line of credit big enough to buy a shiny new EV.

Nobody's against clean air. But you don't get there by stepping on the backs of working people. You get there by bringing them along, by making it possible for everyone to be part of the solution—not just the ones who can afford to look good doing it.

I believe in building things that last. Build trust. Build real solutions. Not this.

Do the right thing. Vote no.

Mr. Thomas V Rinehart Jr