

**From:** [Charles Badger](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Don](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Progress That Leaves Working People Behind Isn't Progress  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 4:23:55 PM

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Dear Chair Currie and Members of the Board,

Policies are only as effective as the conditions they're implemented in. That's where this zero-emission vehicle mandate falls apart.

The idea sounds good in a press release: reduce emissions, accelerate the EV transition, align with long-term environmental goals. But the reality in Illinois—where charging infrastructure is uneven, household vehicle budgets are tight, and many depend on older vehicles for work—isn't built for this kind of forced transition.

It's not just a question of whether EVs are better in the abstract. It's about whether this specific policy works here, now, for most people. The answer is no.

This rule wasn't approved by elected officials. It's being pushed through administratively, based more on political momentum than on practical readiness or socioeconomic data. That's not how good policy gets made. And it certainly doesn't build public trust.

I hope you'll take a clear-eyed look at the facts—not just the goals—and reject this rule. We need better solutions that fit the actual conditions on the ground.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Charles Badger  
Waterloo, IL