

From: [Christopher Johnson](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#)
Subject: [External] Docket R 2024-017 PC
Date: Friday, May 9, 2025 9:43:46 AM

My name is Christopher Johnson. I live in Highland Park, Illinois. I am writing to urge the Illinois Pollution Control Board to adopt three clean-vehicle standards for Illinois:

1. Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT)
2. Heavy-Duty Omnibus (HDO) Low NoX
3. Advanced Clean Cars II

I am writing in direct response to the comments submitted by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. I disagree with the comments the agency submitted, as they did not address the substantial impact that diesel trucks and other vehicles have on air pollution in Illinois and on public health. I have suffered from asthma for many years. I live less than a mile from U.S. Route 41, and I know that on summer days, I feel the impact of air pollution from truck traffic. During the summer, I often must withdraw indoors because of the terrible condition of the air, and I know that the pollution is affecting my health.

I also care deeply about the climate crisis that the world is facing. Illinois is doing a good job of transitioning its power sources to renewable energy and away from burning fossil fuels. However, we as a state **must** do much better in reducing emissions from the transportation sector. Transportation is now the largest source of carbon emissions in the state, accounting for 33 percent of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that are contributing to the climate crisis that our region, our nation, and our world faces.

Medium- and heavy-duty vehicles are responsible for a disproportionate share of carbon emissions. While these vehicles represent only 7 percent of the on-road fleet in Illinois, they contribute 36 percent of greenhouse gases, 67 percent of nitrogen oxide, and 59 percent of particulates. Low levels of nitrogen oxides in the air can cause or exacerbate asthma, irritate people's eyes, nose, throat, and lungs, possibly causing them to cough and experience shortness of breath, tiredness, and nausea. Exposure to low levels can also result in fluid build-up in the lungs one or two days after exposure.

Adopting the clean-vehicle rules will help greatly to improve the health of Illinoisans. The rules will reduce the emission of nitrogen oxide, carbon dioxide, and other greenhouse gases. It is estimated that eliminating the pollution from medium- and heavy-duty vehicles would prevent 500 deaths and 600 fewer cases of asthma in the Chicago metropolitan area. As a longtime asthma sufferer myself, I can attest to the importance of reducing the pollution that causes this virulent disease, which disables far too many people in the state.

Furthermore, by adopting these rules, the Illinois Pollution Control Board can increase zero-emission vehicles in Illinois, reduce diesel pollution, stimulate automobile manufacturing in the state, and grow high-paying jobs in the manufacturing sector. For these reasons, I strongly urge the Board to adopt the clean-vehicle rules as soon as possible—and make Illinois's air cleaner.