

Nicolette Mantia
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, Illinois 6050
Care of Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Chicago, IL 60601

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
NOV 14 2013
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Dear Mr. Richard R. McGill Jr.:

I am writing to you on behalf of Stage 2 vapor recovery. As a student in AP environmental science we learn a lot about the environment and different ways to help it. In class, we have come across the Stage 2 vapor recovery.

First, I am aware that the ORVR canisters are in the newer cars of today, but are not in the older cars. My research shows that about 20% of drivers in Illinois have non-ORVR cars in the year 2013. This shows that most people who drive cars are polluting the air without knowing it. If you take away the Stage 2 vapor recovery system, then what will you put in to insure that the older cars do not pollute the air even more? Furthermore, how will you receive the money you need in order to put these replacement systems in?

If we take out the Stage 2 recovery and rely only on the ORVR canisters without adding anything to help the environment with the old cars, when the older cars refuel they will emit about 940,000,000 gallons of vapor. This vapor would otherwise have been captured if the Stage 2 recovery system is not removed. The amount of vapor that would be put into the air causing pollution and potentially cause health effects to those around us. These vapors can affect the motorist directly when pumping gas. According to my calculations, Illinois pumps about 4,700,000,000 gallons of gas per year. That is more than enough toxic and carcinogenic gases in the air than we need. With all of the other harmful things that pollute the air, why should we take away something that is helping the environment?

Sincerely,



Nicolette Mantia

Jeffrey Zhong
Metea Valley High school
1801 N. Eola road
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of Mr. Long
November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 N. Randolph
Chicago, IL, 60601

Dear Mr. McGill

I want to share my opinion on the removal of stage 2 vapor recovery. I believe that removing this is a detriment to the economy and the environment. The stage 2 system will allow vapor, dispensed from gas stations, to be sucked back down into the tank saving fuel and reducing the amount of methane and other hazardous gases released into the atmosphere.

Every year, Illinois pumps 4,700,000,000 gallons of gasoline. Currently 20% of all drivers in Illinois do not own ORVR cars. 940,000,000 gallons of vapor are released every year solely because of these cars. Instead of forcing people to buy new cars altogether, installing stage 2 vapor recovery systems at gas station is the best solution.

Not only will this help the environment, Gas stations will have larger operating margins from increase in amount of gasoline available. This will also decrease the risk of ground water contamination. From what I know, keeping the stage 2 vapor recovery system is by far the best solution.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Zhong

R. Chavez

Metea Valley High School

Care of Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Dear Mr. McGill,

I am writing to you to discuss why removing the stage II vapor recovery in gas station is a bad idea. While it is true that ORVR canisters in vehicles are very helpful on recapturing fuel vapors, based on my research, there are about 20% of vehicles in Illinois alone that do not have ORVR canisters. Because of these vehicles, there is about 140 million gallons of vapor that could've been recaptured that is now in our air. If the vapor is converted into liquid gas, it would equal around 1.9 million gallons. Also, there are dangerous chemicals in the vapor such as benzene that could affect the health of any living thing it comes in contact with. As a driver of a somewhat old vehicle that does not have an ORVR canister, it concerns me that I am negatively affecting my health when I am doing something as simple as refueling my car. I have also read about a couple of alternative ways to enhance Stage II rather than just shutting it down that can result in less emissions and keeping motorist from the harms of the vapors.

Thank you for your time.

Raul Chavez

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Raul Chavez". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Jacob Petersen
Metea Valley High School
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of: Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. McGill,

I am an 11th grade student at Metea Valley High School in Aurora, IL. I am in an AP Environmental Science course and we have talked about the law to remove the stage 2 recovery systems. Are you aware that about 20% of drivers in Illinois have non-ORVR cars in 2013? Most of this 20% are teen and young drivers (based on parents buying affordable cars for their children). Removing the stage 2 recovery act will have many negative effects on our environment and gas stations. Is your goal, as a so-called protector of our environment, to harm us and the planet? What makes it morally justified harming the environment that you are being paid to protect?

I for one, Mr. McGill, do NOT think it is acceptable to not only put the human population at risk, but also the flora and fauna in our state. Are you aware that these dangerous fumes can be easily lit on fire while in the atmosphere? How about you take a look at this link, <http://usat.ly/1bTIq4Q>, and tell me how it is still safe to have these fumes being openly emitted into the atmosphere. Illinois pumps about 4.7 billion gallons of gas every year. This means an astronomical amount of the vapor being put into the air and harming the environment, also putting people at risk. One of these highly harmful chemicals is Benzene, a known carcinogen. How can you sleep at night knowing that you may be causing innocent children and people to get cancer?

The best solution for the state, and its population, is to keep the stage 2 recovery act. Don't we all have the right to live in a healthy environment, protected from dangerous fumes and chemicals that can put our lives at risk? Many of my friends drive cars that fall into this category of cars that still allow these fumes to escape while at the pump. I, as well as countless others, do not feel comfortable with your removal decision. I strongly hope that you reconsider your choice and do what is best for the environment and the people in it.

Sincerely,

Jacob Petersen

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'JP' followed by a stylized flourish.

Dain Nemcher
1801 N. Eola Rd.
Aurora, 60504
Care of Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill Jr.

Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Chicago, Il 60607

Dear Mr. Richard R. McGill:

The plan to decommission the stage two recovery systems and permeator systems in gas pumps will be extremely detrimental to the environment and cannot be approved. The idea that we do not need these systems is based on the fact that it is redundant, with the inclusion of ORVR technology in new cars. A lot of cars on the road, however, *a lot*, do not have ORVR. I have a jeep Cherokee from 2001, and while I hope to get a newer car that is better for the environment, until college I am stuck with a car without that technology. This means that without stage two recovery systems, every time I filled up my car at the gas station, gasoline fumes would spew out at me. I do not like the idea of inhaling carcinogens and toxic chemicals every week. These fumes are harmful to more than just me, they harm the environment, releasing toxic chemicals into the air. The safety of the environment and people can be ensured by keeping around the handy permeator systems at gas stations.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

D. Nemcher

Dear Mr. McGill,

It has recently come to my attention that there is an issue involving Stage 2 Vapor Recovery and how removing the law that helps recover the Stage 2 Vapor is not only dangerous for the environment but damaging to the citizens of our country. As I'm sure you already know Gasoline is composed of multiple chemicals, a majority of those being known carcinogens. When dealing with laws concerning Gasoline we must first understand that though some of us may enjoy the smell of gasoline we are in fact inhaling chemicals that could lead to cancer. Keeping this in mind we must instill laws that allow for people to inhale the least amount of gas possible. When there are opportunities to make things better and enrich a process which has fallen behind the times it would be negligent to ignore the morally correct thing to do. To express my argument in numbers I present the fact that Illinois pumps about 4,700,000,000 (4.7 billion gallons of gas per year). For the 20% of the cars without the ORVR Canisters, upon refueling they will emit about $0.2 \times 4,700,000,000 = 940,000,000$ gallons of vapor which would otherwise have been captured. Does IL EPA know the mass of emissions from the storage tanks after Stage II systems are removed? I would imagine no because should they fully realize the scope of how this law affects the environment they wouldn't even consider getting rid of the Stage 2 Vapor Recovery laws. I urge you to consider other options or look into technology that can help solve this sizable problem.

Thanks for your time,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billy Edner". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font. The first name "Billy" is on the top line and "Edner" is on the line below it, with the letters overlapping.

Rachel Sutphen
1802 North Aurora Road
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of: Mr. Long

11/7/13

Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Mr. Richard R. McGill,

Hello. My name is Rachel Sutphen and I am a senior at Metea Valley High School. I am 18 years old and I have been driving for around 2 years. Through these two years I have driven a 1999 Toyota Corolla, a car that is seen on the streets quite often. These cars are not built with an ORVR canister. In fact, a lot of people still drive cars without the ORVR canisters. Based on my research, about 20% of drivers in Illinois have non-ORVR cars in year 2013. So for the EPA to allow gas station owners to remove Stage II vapor recovery and rely only on the ORVR canisters installed in cars would not only be environmentally dangerous, but also dangerous for the health of our society.

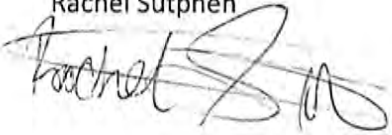
The vapor volume emitted from the 20% of the cars without ORVR when converted to liquid gasoline equals about 1,880,000 gallons. So these emissions are equivalent to parking 235 tanker trucks end to end and letting the liquid gasoline flow out and vaporize into the air. How do you plan on trapping the vapor that these cars will be letting out so that the people don't inhale them? These vapors are known to cause some types of illnesses and sometimes even cancer. By eliminating the Stage II vapor recovery at gas stations, you are letting those cars that aren't equipped put harmful chemicals into the air. Because my car does not have an ORVR canister, I will personally be in harm's way every

time I put gas into my car. As a citizen, I should not have to fear for my life at a gas station because of the lack of a canister that my car was not made with. I know that I am not alone in this feeling. If we already have the vapor recovery in our gas stations, to take them out because SOME cars have these canisters is something that shouldn't even have to be debated on.

By letting these deadly vapors into the air every time a car without a canister fills up with gas, you are letting the state of Illinois have more pollution in the air than there already is and you are putting people in danger every day. Is taking out the Stage II vapor recovery from gas stations really worth all of that damage? It would be morally wrong to take this action and it would lead to dangerous air for everyone, including you, to breathe.

Thank you for your time.

Rachel Sutphen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Sutphen", written over a faint, illegible printed name.

N. Collins
Metea Valley High School
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of: Mr. Long

November 7th, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. McGill,

Over the decades environment has become an issue to everyone. We are destroying our environment every day without proposing solutions to this destruction. A huge issue today, is the use of gasoline. There are about 4,000 gas stations in the state of Illinois alone. When people go to these gas stations to fill up their gas tanks, vapors are being emitted from tanks. Vapors are emitted from cars that don't have ORVR canisters-which are about 20% of drivers. From this 20% alone 1,880,000 gallons of vapor are emitted. These fumes are filled with cancerous chemicals that affect our lives daily. We can change this distribution of emissions. With the help of ARID technologies a solution has emerged. Their product, the permeator, reduces these emissions of vapors and can save our environment. From research, I believe this will only help us. It would be in our best interest if you gained knowledge on this solution. One of the biggest issues we have is lack of education on the environment. Look into this product and I can assure you, you can make a difference in all of Illinois.

Thanks for your time,



Nora Collins

Karen Flesh
1801 N. Eola Rd.
Aurora, IL 60504
Care of: Mr. Long
November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James. R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph Suit 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Richard R. McGill Jr.:

Based on my research, I have come to a conclusion that gas stations all across the U.S. are emitting toxic CO2 fumes and we don't even realize it. The gases you smell at a gas station are gases such as methane, propane, and benzene that can harm the human body. In order to make gas stations more environmentally friendly, permeator systems are vital for all stations. These permeator systems take the gas that is supposed to be emitted and stores it underground in a large tank away from the connection point between the car and pump nozzle. All cars that are 2003 or older do not have the ORVR tanks that are found in all cars before the year 2003, which holds the toxic emissions that would've been released at the pump. Any car that arrives at the pump that is older than 2003 releases 15+ toxic emissions into the air. If we don't have the permeator systems at each station, about 20% of all cars on the road are harming the environment every single day.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Karen Flesh

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Flesh", written in a cursive style.

A. Miller
Metea Valley High School
1801 N Eola Rd,
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of: Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL. 60601

Dear Mr. McGill,

It has come to my attention that there is a meeting concerning car emissions that will be held this week. This meeting that is being held is considering the abolishment of Phase II gasoline emission capture and filtering at local gas stations. Due to the introduction of ORVR Canisters that are placed in most current cars, some feel that Stage II recovery systems and Permeator Systems are unnecessary.

From my research, I have found that 20% of cars that are currently in use are older model cars that do not have ORVR canisters. These older model cars include those that were made pre-2003. I feel very strongly on this topic because realistically, most teenagers have these cars and are exposed to these dangerous emissions. When teens first get their license, most parents will buy their child an older, used car that, without knowing, lacks an ORVR canister. In addition to that, the state of Illinois pumps around 4.7 Billion gallons of gasoline annually. Knowing that only 80% of cars capture emissions, this means that 940 Million gallons of gasoline emissions go without being captured.

Until older model cars without ORVR canisters start to disappear completely, Phase II and Permeator systems are necessities in order keep Illinois from becoming toxic to the growing generation's health.

Thank you for your understanding and consideration in this manner


A. Miller

Andrew Duncan
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.:

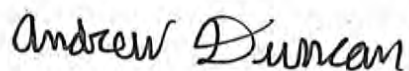
I am writing to inform you about Stage 2 Vapor Recovery systems that are currently installed at gas stations. As of today, the 7th of November, there is a meeting being held in Chicago to discuss whether or not the vapor recovery system should stay in gas stations. I want to enlighten you about the concerns with removing this system.

Currently, gas stations are equipped with this system to help recover vapors given off by refueling vehicles. Newer cars are built with a similar system known as ORVR canisters. It helps reduce the pollution of the fumes and allows cars to have better gas mileage. However, most cars that are not built before the year 2002 do not have this system built in. If the EPA decides that this system at gas stations should be removed it will not only cost more money, but it will allow older cars to emit harsh pollutants.

One of these pollutants is benzene which is a toxic and carcinogenic gas. How can the EPA decide that removing the Stage 2 system is okay for the environment? Based upon my research, 20% of cars without the ORVR canisters will emit about 0.2 x 4,700,000,000 = 940,000,000 gallons of vapor that would have otherwise been captured. I urge you to look at these facts and decide that the EPA cannot do this. There will be a serious health concern relating to all the vapors that are going to be released. Saving this system will increase fuel mileage and decrease pollutants emitted in the atmosphere.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Andrew Duncan

A.Jaliniuskas
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, Illinois 60502
Care of: Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Richard R. McGill:

I am writing this letter in regards of the Stage 2 Recovery at gas stations. From my research I have learned that about 20% of cars in the United States do not have ORVR canisters on them. Illinois alone pump around 4.7 billion gallons of gas for year. The non-ORVR cars account for about 940 million gallons of gas. This means that 940 million gallons of gas in Illinois are releasing deadly vapor emissions such as benzene which is a toxic and carcinogenic gas. Personally my car was made in 1995 and does not come with an ORVR canister. How would the shutting down of the stage 2 recovery affect me? From my research I have also learned that there are alternatives to enhance Stage 2 instead of shutting it down. These alternatives are cost effective and result in less emission in total, which saves a lot of valuable fuel for the gas station owner. In other words dangerous gases are getting released into the environment and there is a way of stopping it. It isn't all that expensive and saves the environment from being destroyed. The Stage 2 Recovery helps us save the atmosphere and the air we breathe.

Sincerely,

Audrius Jaliniuskas

Chase Lettieri

Metea Valley High School

1801. N. Eola Road

Aurora, IL 60502

November 7, 2013

Care of; Mr. Long

Dear Mr. McGill,

I am currently a junior at Metea Valley High School. I started driving around a year ago and I know realize how much gas and fumes are released from the emissions of a car. The emissions from cars alone could have enough power to ruin are atmosphere. I use to think that dangerous fumes were only released when you were driving your car. That was until I saw a video that showed all of the dangerous fumes that were being released as a person was filling up their fuel tank. This was very concerning to me. The fumes are not only dangerous to the environment but they are also harmful to me. This was very concerning, so I went on to do some research to find out why this was happening. In my research if found that newer cars include OVRV canisters. This canister's sucked up the fumes and keeps them from releasing the fumes into the atmosphere. The problem is 20% of the cars on the road today don't contain the OVRV containers, so all of the fumes are being released into the atmosphere. The reason this was really concerning to me was because the majority of the cars without the OVRV containers are being driven by teens around my age. With the OVRV canisters the cars will save 940,000,000 gallons of vapor. Without those the entire vapor is escaping into the atmosphere. These vapor emissions include benzene, a toxic and carcinogenic gas. Benzene is linked to

childhood leukemia. This is a preventable gas that we are allowing to fly off into are atmosphere and the air we breathe. How do you feel about letting the harmful carcinogenic gasses spread around are atmosphere knowing they can easily harm us?

Sincerley,

Chase Lettieri

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'C' followed by a horizontal line.

V. House
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, Il 60502
Care of: Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill
100W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, Il 60501

Dear Mr. Richard R. McGill,

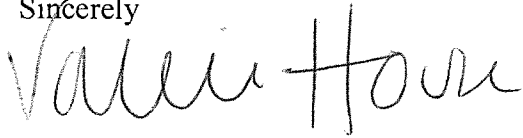
Why should we remove Stage II vapor recovery? Then only rely on OVCR? When you think through those questions, you get a clear answer: we shouldn't, it won't help anything. One reason why we should not remove Stage II vapor recovery is because a lot of people still don't drive cars with OVCR. 20% of Illinois drivers in 2013 did not have OVRC installed in their cars, so when that 20% of drivers go to fill their car with gas, they will be breathing in harmful fumes. For cars without OVCR, they will be emitting 940,000,000 gallons of vapor that would have been otherwise captured. These vapors include the harmful chemicals such as Benzene, a toxic and carcinogenic gas. Also, these vapors will be directed right at the motorist. Why should we punish car owners who don't have OVCR in their car and also the people around them by putting them in harm?

Another reason why we should not remove Stage II vapor recovery is there are alternatives to improving it. Why just remove it when we can make it better? These alternatives are cost effective and result in less emissions in total (and much less emissions to the motorist) while at the same time saving a lot of valuable fuel for the gas station owner. As someone who drives a car, I don't want to be paying more for my gas when the gas fumes are harmful to me. Illinois has no funding to remove Stage II vapor recovery so gas buyers will have pay for it when they purchase gas. This is not ethical because 1. Gas prices are already higher than they should be 2. Cost of living is rising and getting by day to day is already harder for many people and 3. Wages and salaries are decreasing making money for many people even more tight. So why take more money away from Illinois residents for something that doesn't need to be changed. It may be our right to release whatever we want in the air, but I promise you that if you went to a gas

station and informed people about Stage II recovery and what it does, they would not want you to remove it.

So why would we remove Stage II vapor recovery? There's absolutely no reason that we need to or that we should. Why not invest our money into improving it (which will be less expensive and more beneficial) than remove it. By removing Stage II recovery we are just polluting Illinois even more and putting citizens in harm.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valerie House". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Valerie House

Stephanie Gerace
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of: Mr. Long

November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R. McGill Jr.
Illinois Pollution control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph Suit 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Richard R. McGill Jr:

I am writing to you use to talk about the gas pumps in our area. I understand that there is discussion about taking out and eliminating the production of the vacuum-assisted systems because many cars do have onboard refueling vapor recovery. I just wanted you to know that I am a high school student and as new drivers, we are not always given new cars. We are still learning so people do not want us to wreck a car that came right of a lot; we receive old used cars. I am fortunate enough to drive a vehicle that is new enough to have an ORVR but so many of my close friends do not. Within a poll consisting of 58 students, 48% of them do not regularly drive a car that is newer than the year 2003. Without these pump systems, my friends are at risk of breathing in these hazardous air pollutants which includes carcinogens such as benzene.

The people of my age are generally described as the future for our society. If you make the decision to eliminate the production of this system then you are allowing about half of my generation to inhale toxic fumes at a young age. Sometimes we are looked over because we are still young and learning but you could at least care about the other at the gas station. These fumes surround the area making people who own cars with ORVR still at risk of being a victim to these chemicals. Care about these people and care about the environment. Think about who and what it impacts rather than how to fit it in the budget. Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Gerace". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Stephanie Gerace

Joey Klupar
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of Mr. Long
11/7/13

Mr. Richard McGill
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. McGill, Jr.,

I believe that gasoline is one of the biggest industries in America and many other countries such as the Middle East. I am currently a junior in high school, and I am starting to learn a little more about costs and effects of gasoline. I have had my license for a year now and I have to buy my own gas for my car that I work hard to achieve. When I learned about all of the fumes that are released from gas pumps, I was a little concerned. The fumes contain many carcinogens that are dangerous. These vapor emissions include benzene, a toxic and carcinogenic gas. They also hurt the environment. The fumes have chemicals in them that are damaging our atmosphere. To us it might not seem like such a big deal, but when we look at the big picture, there are billions of gallons of gas pumped each year. All of the pumps release fumes into the air. From my research I learned that Illinois pumps about 4.7 billion gallons of gas per year. Also, I learned that 20% of drivers in Illinois have non-ORVR cars. There needs to be more laws and regulations to help reduce the carcinogens and toxic fumes because not only are there safety issues, but it is also very damaging to our environment and atmosphere. I understand that money is an issue, but money is being wasted from the fumes released into the air. Do our world a favor and do what you know what is morally right. Do not make your decision just based on money because money is not the biggest issue.



Dear **Mr. Richard R. McGill, Jr.**,

Recently attending a presentation about gasoline fumes and the danger they cause the patron filling up their tank, I am more than appalled that you have not acted upon this with a safety requirement. Considering that there are over 150,000 gas stations in the United States, thousands of people go to the gas station a day, putting thousands of people in danger due to "leaking" gasoline fumes. The fumes leak because there is nowhere for the excess gas to go, other than up in the air. By using a storage tank by the company AIRID that allows the gas to go from the pump, to the vehicle, back to the ground, then filtered out through tubes in to the air. This not only is safer, it saves money too. By gas stations having a storage tank the patrons filling up their vehicle are not exposed to the gas leaking out of their car. The fumes are "deadly", with over 30 known links to cancer. Do the people know this?? NO! You need to educate the people who are purchasing gas, that they are putting their health in danger. A simple tank by AIRID would reduce the health risk immensely.

- **Brooke**

November 7, 2013

Page 1

L.Herron
Metea Valley High School
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, 60502
November 7, 2013
Care of: Mr. Long

Richard R. McGill
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph, Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. McGill:

As you consider the removal of the Stage II vapor recovery system I implore you to consider the great strain you will be placing on our environment.

The Stage II system is essential to the toxic vapor recovery, and although the ORVR system appears to have made Stage II obsolete, this is untrue. Stage II is necessary to protect twenty percent of citizens who do not have ORVR system in their cars. At my high school, half of the students who drive are driving cars older than 2003 which is when the ORVR system became common in cars. Without the ORVR system (which cannot be retrofitted), they will be exposed to the hazardous vapors that contain known carcinogens. It is not just high school students that will be affected, it is any person who drives an older car, and with the removal of the Stage II system with the justification that only twenty percent will be affected, the health of those twenty percent is being devalued and neglected because of not owning a newer car.

Stage II is also essential economically. If removed, there will be an increase in the vapors released and instead of the vapors being recaptured, which conserves gasoline, the vapors will escape into the atmosphere. With the loss of vapors, gas stations are going to need to purchase more gas, which does not harm them, but instead harms us, the consumer. More money will come from our wallets to pay for the ever increasing price of gas.

Environmentally, Stage II is a necessity. The vapors being released into the air contain toxins that are extremely harmful to our environment. The vapors escaping into the atmosphere combine with sunlight to form photochemical smog, which could lead to an increase in smog Illinois. The pollutants emitted will return as acid precipitation, damaging our buildings, plants, and much more. The Stage II system should not be removed, it's removal will only be a detriment to our environment.

Sincerely,


L. Herron

L. Lipan
Metea Valley High School
1801 N. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of: Mr. Long
November 7, 2013

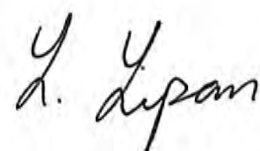
Mr. Richard R. McGill
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60502

Dear Mr. Richard R. McGill Jr.,

I am an AP Environmental student at Metea Valley High School. Throughout the year my class has been discussing many different subjects relating to the environment and the pollution in it. We have focused specifically on air pollution and how we can provide release to the levels of pollution that inhabit the air. One element that is found heavily in the air is hydrocarbon emissions. This is mostly from filling up our gas tanks. This vapor released is made up of numerous components: some of these being methane, ethane, ethylene, and propane. (Only to name a few) In Illinois alone the average gas consumption a year is about 4.7 billion gallons. With all of this gasoline consumption in our state alone we could emit over 20 million pounds of hydrocarbons into our atmosphere over a time period of about nine years. However this is not a reality because of the technology that we have put in place. We have cars that now contain ORVR systems that are working together with our Stage II systems in gas pumps. You may think that if we have vehicles that are coming out with systems in them that help clean the air, then why is it needed for us to keep funding the Stage II systems that we already have in place. If we do get rid of these Stage II systems then that drastic increase in hydrocarbon leakage will become a reality. Research shows that most cars that are from 2003 or older do not have these ORVR systems in them. As a teen driver, I know that most kids my age do not get new cars to drive, putting us in that range of cars that do not have special systems in them. According to a 2008 survey conducted by the Center for Unified National Transportation 400,731,249 teens between the ages of 16 and 19 have a valid driver's license. If the Stage II systems were to be taken out, a good majority of those teens, and adults who drive older cars, would be affected by those escaping fumes. However if we keep these Systems intact studies show that we could continue to decrease our hydrocarbon emission which is now at 5 million down to less than 1 million by 2022. In thinking about what's best for the future, I hope you see that the decisions you make can create an immense impact on the environment. It's up to you as to which reality you want to create.

Sincerely,

L. Lipan



Ian Connelly
Metea Valley High School
1801 N. Eola Rd
Aurora, IL 60502
Care of: Mr. Long
November 7, 2013

Mr. Richard R McGill, Jr.
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Richard McGill,

My name is Ian Connelly and I am a senior at Metea Valley High School. I am an AP Environmental student and I have learned lots of information on how this world is greatly affected, and solutions we can provide to reduce these issues. Based on my research, Illinois pumps about 4.7 billion gallons of gas per year. Also, a little more than 80% of cars drive with an ORVR canister. I want to know what the solutions are for the cars that don't have ORVR canisters? Also I would like to ask what would happen to all of the vapors that are released from all of those 4.7 billion gallons of gas? There needs to be solutions provided so these numbers do not jump off of the charts. There also needs to be solutions for cutting down on the burning of fossil fuels and factories and pollution that is pumped up into the atmosphere. Preferably, a product that can capture all of these harmful chemicals and filter them in a safe way that can be released in the atmosphere without harming it. I believe stage 2 should not be removed keeping Balanced Systems would help out so much with capturing the vapors. Some people debate that we would not need both ORVR canisters and the Stage 2 Balanced Systems. But we need to do everything we can to insure the safety of our citizens and do all that we can to lower the pollution rates.

These vapor emissions include one of the most harmful, toxic, and carcinogenic gases: Benzene. As well as having methane and propane along with a variety of other harmful chemicals. What people don't know is that when they pump gas into their cars; vapor emissions are directed right at the person and they don't even know it. That is why we need to have a product that we can attach onto gas pumps so that when we do pump the gas, we will not be affected by these "invisible" gases.

I highly advise that some alternate solutions be adopted or slightly modified from the IL EPA. Installing units to cut down on pollution is crucial and we need to work on getting these installed. Thank you for your time to read this and I respectfully suggest you think about what great solutions are to take full advantage of these products and opportunities.

Sincerely,

Ian Connelly

