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Subject: [External] R24-17
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My name is Gabrielle and I am currently a student at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and am volunteering for the Sierra Club as part of Northwestern's Organizing for Justice program. I urge the Pollution Control Board to use your power to ensure Illinois adopts cleaner vehicle standards to improve our state's air quality and public health. As a college student, I spend a significant amount of time outside walking to and from classes in Evanston. As Evanston is in Cook County I was stunned to learn that Cook County is in the highest 1% of diesel truck emissions

Pollution from vehicles, especially diesel trucks, is a leading cause of poor air quality in our region. According to the American Lung Association's "State of the Air" report, air quality in areas like ours is consistently ranked among the worst in the nation. People who live near high-traffic zones are especially at risk, with rates of asthma and respiratory illnesses rising. This is a public health crisis. A solution to this problem is necessary. We need to advance with strong clean vehicle standards, such as the Advanced Clean Trucks and Advanced Clean Cars rules. These initiatives will reduce harmful emissions, improve air quality, and make our communities safer. Transitioning to clean vehicles, especially electric trucks and cars, will not only reduce the pollution that causes respiratory issues but also help with combating climate change.

We cannot wait any longer to make these changes, especially when we know that clean vehicle standards will bring long-term benefits—both to our environment and to our health. I urge the IL Pollution Control Board to adopt the Advanced Clean Trucks Rule, Heavy Duty Omnibus Rule, and Advanced Clean Car II Rule. By supporting these standards, you will be improving public health, reducing environmental damage, and investing in a sustainable future for all of Illinois. Your vote in favor of these rules will show a commitment to the well-being of our communities and future generations. Thank you for your time and consideration