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To: [Brown, Don](#)
Subject: [External] Docket R 2024-017 PC
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R2024-17, In the Matter of: Proposed Clean Car and Truck Standards

Response to Illinois EPA Document

The Illinois EPA has clearly overstated its case and in doing so revealed their agenda to simply quash the Clean Cars and Truck Standards proposal while defending polluters. Instead of proposing solutions to problems they have raised, in accordance with their constitutional obligations, the IEPA has merely amassed arguments to block the IPCB.

Both parties are obligated by law to protect the natural environment and the citizens of Illinois. Therefore, they should facilitate this process rather than shut it down. However, the IEPA has clearly illustrated they do not take their mandate seriously. They have expressed no concern for public health or safety. Conversely, they have repeatedly made economic arguments which should not be their priority or even within their purview.

The IPCB must fulfill their mission of protecting the health of all Illinoisans by resisting these cynical arguments by an agency that has lost all credibility. While one might not assume a government agency to have a finely-tuned moral compass, one might object to, even be shocked by, direct and aggressive action by an agency against its mandate.

Why didn't the IEPA suggest amendments to the proposal? Why isn't the IEPA trying to facilitate the process? Why are they doing the job of other agencies?

If this is a black and white issue, as the IEPA suggests by their efforts to shut it down, then the IEPA has revealed their hidden agenda to protect business interests. Quite simply they are acting on behalf of the parties opposing the initiative, lending their legal expertise and resources to polluters.

With this response, the IEPA has illustrated their complete abdication of responsibility for curbing pollution and protecting the health of Illinoisans. None of this should be normalized. We cannot be distracted by legalese.

As a citizen of Illinois I demand that the Illinois EPA submit a proposal to facilitate rather than shut down this initiative. Perhaps the IPCB should explain to the IEPA why their response is wholly inappropriate.

At the very least the IPCB should initiate an expanded stakeholder consultation process as the IEPA has obliquely suggested, in what was almost certainly an unintended consequence of their exuberant and condescending arguments against curbing pollution.

Is the new IEPA agenda to inflict harm on Illinoisans in order to protect business interests? Perhaps the IEPA would like to return to lead pipes and lead paint for financial reasons? Deregulate water filtration to bring back cholera? Perhaps, as in Flint Michigan, their calculus simply excludes public health?

The IEPA is not only failing to do its job, it is acting *directly against the interest of Illinoisans at large* and directly in concert with short-sighted business interests. And all of this shameful business is conducted with particularly cruel disregard for our most vulnerable neighbors, including financially disadvantaged workers, low-income elders, and children born into poverty.

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