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Carolina Macias
Brown, Don; PCB.Clerks
[External] Docket R 2024-017 PC
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Dear Members of the Pollution Control Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comment on the proposed Clean Vehicle Standards. I am writing as a concerned Illinois resident to urge the Board to move forward in adopting strong clean vehicle standards that will help our state address both climate and public health challenges.

I am particularly concerned that in its recent comments, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) did not address the substantial health and environmental benefits associated with clean vehicle standards. This omission is troubling, especially given the disproportionate burden of air pollution borne by low-income communities and communities of color across our state.

Clean vehicle standards represent one of the most effective tools we have to reduce harmful emissions from medium- and heavy-duty trucks, which are a major source of nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and greenhouse gases. These pollutants contribute to asthma, heart disease, and premature death—especially in overburdened communities located near highways, railyards, and industrial corridors.

The Pollution Control Board is in a unique position to help Illinois transition to a cleaner, more just transportation system. By advancing these standards, the Board would be taking a meaningful step toward safeguarding public health, improving air quality, and meeting our state's climate goals.

I respectfully urge you to consider the broader public health implications of this rulemaking, particularly for communities that have been historically marginalized and are already experiencing the worst impacts of pollution.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to environmental protection and equity.

Sincerely, Carolina Macias