

**Comment on CAFE and GHG Standards
Proposed Rule for MY 2021-2026**

By

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Thank you for the opportunity to speak here today. My name is Nathan Murphy, and I am the state director of Environment Michigan, a state-wide, membership driven organization that advocates on behalf of our thousands of Michigan members for clean air, clean water, and the green spaces we love.

Our bottom line here is that the proposed rollback of existing standards would threaten our planet with more greenhouse gas emissions while hurting the health of Michiganders by increasing air pollution that increases asthma rates, cardiac events, sick days resulting in lost work or school days, and other health issues. The fact that these proposed emission standards would contribute to climate change would exacerbate those same health issues.

The science has overwhelmingly shown us that we need to act aggressively to try and prevent the worst of man-made climate change, yet America has done little despite being a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. The current rules are the most action we've taken to date as a country, and a rollback of these standards flies in the face of science and the health of our families and our planet.

Transportation in the U.S. is overwhelmingly the largest and fastest growing source of emissions and oil consumption. Our cars and trucks use half of the oil used in the U.S., and create a third of our greenhouse gas emissions. The rollback would increase oil consumption by about 500,000 barrels per day and contribute to the environmental harm of oil extraction and harm to the climate when that oil is burned.

The proposed rollback would make it almost impossible for America to do its part to hit the reductions needed to hold the planet below two degrees celcius that scientists tell us is necessary to avoid the worst effects of climate change. Climate change threatens our ecosystems and the wildlife that rely on them. It also threatens the health and well being of the American people by affecting our food and water sources, the air we breathe, and the weather we experience. Rolling back the current standards harms our natural spaces, and the health of our families and communities by increasing our contribution to climate change.

The proposed rollback of clean car standards would also contribute to local air pollution problems around the country, including right here in Dearborn and the rest of southeast

Michigan. The transportation sector is a major contributor to the air pollution that harms families, particularly children and older people. The current standards are making progress on reducing transportation related air pollution as intended, and it makes no sense to replace those standards at the expense of our families' health.

The proposed change in standards would have the synergistic effect of making our local air pollution problems worse as climate change effects grow. Higher temperatures increase air stagnation allowing air pollutants to accumulate locally, and those higher temps speed up atmospheric reactions that turn car exhaust into harmful smog and increased ozone levels. Why would we put such harmful new rules in place?

The EPA's final determination in January of 2017 determined the current standards are appropriate, and progress is faster and at lower costs than initially predicted. The current standards are acting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollution as predicted. It makes no sense to change these standards in ways that result in harm to our children, our communities and the planet.

On behalf of the members of Environment Michigan I speak to today in opposition to the proposed changes. Thank you again for the opportunity to speak here today.