

As Prepared for Delivery
Comments of Tiffany Nichols
On
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards for Heavy-Duty Vehicles—Phase 3
Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2022– 0985
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Good morning, thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I live in Indianapolis, Indiana. It is often referred to as the *Crossroads of America* because it's the hub of several major interstate highways. As such, many heavy-duty vehicles travel through our beautiful city daily as they move interstate commerce and people.

The American Lung Association recently released our annual State of the Air (SOTA) report where Indianapolis Ranked 10th in the Nation for annual Particle Pollution and experiences high ozone days. Frequent heavy-duty vehicle travel can contribute significantly to an area's poor air quality. Combustion can lead to particle pollution and ozone pollution and is particularly harmful for communities alongside freeways.

The EPA's proposal is designed to reduce greenhouse gases from vehicles, addressing the climate crisis which is important to protect health. But it will also reduce other pollutants at the same time, like particle pollution. Exposure to particle pollution even at low levels can be deadly and puts certain populations at risk such as asthmatics, seniors, and those with lung cancer. Additionally, since many highways and freeways run directly through communities where people of color reside such as in Indianapolis, those communities are vulnerable to the ill effects of particle pollution from heavy duty trucks and other vehicles traveling through the city. I grew up within blocks of the 1-70 corridor and remember numerous family members that suffered from exacerbated asthma flare ups all year long.

I want to encourage the EPA to adopt more stringent standards to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from heavy-duty (HD) vehicles.

Thank you.

