

September 26, 2021

The Honorable Michael Regan  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

As a Christian I am called to protect God's creation and care for God's people. This means stopping pollution that is harming our communities and families and fighting climate change that is creating an unequal burden on communities of color.

The Environmental Protection Agency has an opportunity to help address the injustice of pollution and climate change by enacting the strongest possible federal clean car standards. Since transportation is the largest source of carbon emissions in the US, strong fuel economy standards will protect families from vehicle pollution, save drivers money at the pump, and fight climate change. The standards EPA sets should achieve 100 percent zero-emission vehicles in by 2035.

Black communities are disproportionately harmed from vehicle pollution since our neighborhoods are often located closest to highways and other sources of vehicle pollution. This has resulted tragically in higher rates of asthma and other respiratory illnesses. In order for attend to this injustice, we need stronger vehicle emission standards. This means restoring standards at least to levels set during the Obama-Biden administration and ideally even stronger than Obama era standards.

I urge the EPA to make clean car standards as strong as possible in order to protect Black communities and all communities from vehicle pollution.

Signed,

Rev. Gene Gordon, Capital Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg  
Rev. Queen Dickey, St. John CME, Harrisburg  
Rev. Jonathan Dickey, St. John CME, Harrisburg  
Rev. John Dillard, Holsey Temple CME, Philadelphia  
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Rev. Linda Moore, Bethel-Tarentum AME, Tarentum  
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Rev. Curtis Morris, Bethany Baptist, Chester  
Rev. Raymond Merriweather, First Baptist, Darby  
Rev. Terrence Griffith, First African Baptist, Philadelphia  
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Rev. James Moore, Second Mt Zion Baptist, Philadelphia  
Rev. Robert Shipman, Prince of Peace Baptist, Philadelphia  
Elder Billy Speaks, Celestial Word Ministries, Philadelphia  
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Bishop Keith Reed, Sharon Baptist, Philadelphia  
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Rev. Gregory Jackson, Providence Baptist, Philadelphia

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Rev. Duane Hunter, Morning Star Baptist, Erie  
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Rev. Vincent Campbell, Ebenezer Baptist, Pittsburgh  
Rev. Malachi Smith, Morning Star Baptist, Pittsburgh  
Rev. Ronnie Tucker, Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, Steelton