



15 January 2024

Attn: Martin Lundstedt, President and CEO Volvo Group
 AB Volvo
 SE-405 08 Gothenburg, Sweden

CC:

Dawn Fenton, Vice President, Government Relations & Public Affairs, Volvo Group North America
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**Open Letter to Volvo Group’s CEO:
 Stop Volvo Trucks USA from delaying the transition to clean trucks**

Dear Mr. Lundstedt,

We, the undersigned, are writing to raise concern regarding the recent actions taken by Volvo Trucks USA to delay the transition to zero-emission trucks in the United States.

As you are aware, medium and heavy duty trucks are responsible for about 30% of global CO₂ road transport emissions despite representing [3% of the global fleet](#). Trucks are the most disproportionately polluting forms of transport and the furthest behind the urgently needed transition to zero-emission vehicles to prevent the worst effects of climate change and reduce health-harming air pollution.

On January 11, 2023 [you highlighted](#) the USA as a country where there is an opportunity for a swift transition, saying “...major markets like the US are establishing a policy framework which aims to accelerate the transition to fossil-free alternatives by creating an attractive investment environment.”

While Volvo Group has [aimed to benefit](#) from such policies, Volvo Trucks USA has also been consistently fighting against clean air and clean truck standards. The USA subsidiary is not working alone: they are pushing back on policies that could save thousands of lives in coordination with the Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA), as well as the American Trucking Associations (ATA).

Volvo Trucks has publicly set out to reach 50% fully electric vehicles at a global scale by 2030, which makes the efforts to delay stricter standards inconsistent with the company’s goal, especially in the USA where massive investments from the IRA are available.

[InfluenceMap](#) has found that Volvo Trucks USA, with the groups mentioned above, has made a significant effort to oppose the adoption of the ACT rule in California, Colorado, New Jersey, Oregon and [Maryland](#). Now, as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards for Heavy-Duty Vehicles – Phase 3 is in the process of being finalized, Volvo is lobbying to weaken this rule. Your USA team has strongly [opposed](#) the EPA’s proposed tightening of 2027

heavy-duty GHG emission standards, calling them “infeasible,” and called for the delay of the standards from 2027 to 2030.

EPA’s standards are projected to save Americans an estimated \$320 billion in climate, health and fuel costs while avoiding approximately 1.8 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions from 2027 through 2055. With these policies in place, fleets will have greater access to clean trucks, protecting the health of millions of people and reducing climate pollution. Pushing back against them will send an industry-wide message that says, “We have time”, which might distract investors and other key stakeholders from accelerating the development of infrastructure urgently needed for the transition. The families affected by air pollution and the planet have no time for delay.

Volvo Trucks USA must focus its efforts and resources on electrifying the transportation sector *now*, especially in the communities most impacted by truck emissions, instead of fighting policies needed to move the whole system faster.

You have [stated](#) that “climate change is the challenge of our generation.” As President and CEO of one of the top truck manufacturers in the world and recognized climate leader by [Time Magazine](#), we urge you to stop Volvo Trucks USA from pushing to weaken and delay these vital safeguards. Instead, they must find constructive solutions that are consistent with your corporate commitments. We need your voice to lead the global transition and protect people around the world.

Thank you for your attention.

1. ActionAid Denmark
2. Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
3. Alpine Initiative
4. Center for Biological Diversity
5. Earthjustice
6. Evergreen Action
7. Environmental Action Germany (DUH)
8. Environmental Defense Fund
9. Dream.org
10. Green Transition Denmark
11. Interfaith Power & Light
12. League of Conservation Voters (LCV)
13. MI Air MI Health
14. Natural Resources Defense Council
15. Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU)
16. Polish Ecological Club Mazovian Branch
17. Public Citizen
18. Respiratory Health Association
19. Sierra Club
20. Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision
21. The Sunrise Project
22. Union of Concerned Scientists