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ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN SUES U.S. EPA OVER FORMER ADMINISTRATOR PRUITT'S PARTING GIFT TO POLLUTERS

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan and a coalition of attorneys general and state environmental regulators filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) over an order issued on former EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's final day in office. The order effectively suspends for a year the EPA's 2016 Glider Rule, which limits the number of highly polluting trucks on the nation's roads.

The Glider Rule mandates that most engines installed in "gliders" – new heavy-duty truck bodies outfitted with refurbished or rebuilt pre-2010 highly polluting engines – meet the same emissions standards applicable to all newly manufactured engines.

In a memo dated July 6, Pruitt's last day at the agency, the EPA announced it would take no action to enforce the Glider Rule's annual manufacturing cap of 300 gliders per company. This cap is meant to protect air quality from the excessive smog-forming and particulate-matter pollution emitted by outdated engines. On Tuesday, Madigan and the coalition [demanded](#) the EPA immediately withdraw its order suspending the Glider Rule. Because the EPA failed to act, Madigan and the coalition filed today's lawsuit and an emergency motion asking the court to promptly overturn the EPA's order or halt the order's effect until the court can rule on the merits of the lawsuit.

"If left unchallenged, this outrageous special interest giveaway will cause widespread harm to the environment," Madigan said. "Allowing these highly polluting trucks to circumvent necessary clean air safeguards is unlawful."

The action taken on former Administrator Pruitt's last day will allow the sale of trucks that produce many times more emissions of hazardous pollutants than new, more fuel efficient trucks. Emissions from these high-polluting trucks are linked to asthma, low birth weight, infant mortality, and lung cancer. Throughout the country, the rest of the trucking industry has already made substantial investments to comply with stringent emissions standards. These industries would face an uneven playing field if forced to compete against unregulated, high-polluting glider manufacturers who avoid making such investments.

The Environmental Defense Fund, Center for Biological Diversity and Sierra Club have filed a separate lawsuit against the EPA on this matter. Yesterday, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of these environmental groups and granted an administrative stay, placing a temporary hold on Pruitt's order until both parties – the environmental groups and the EPA – complete briefings on the environmental groups' emergency motion. Madigan and the coalition are filing a separate lawsuit due to the irreparable harm that the states and their residents would suffer if the EPA's order were allowed to stand.

Joining Attorney General Madigan in filing the lawsuit were the attorneys general of California, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and the District of Columbia. The California Air Resources Board, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection are also part of the coalition.

A [copy of the lawsuit can be found here](#) and a [copy of the emergency motion can be found here](#).

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