Truck & Engine Manufacturers Association®
Bringing Clean Power to the World™

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Truck and Engine Manufacturers Urge Balanced Approach to Diesel Exhaust Fluid Policies

EMA President and CEO Jacqueline Gelb testifies at House subcommittee hearing, highlights manufacturers' commitment to addressing operator concerns

CHICAGO, IL – Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA) President and CEO Jacqueline Gelb testified before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment this week in a hearing entitled "Rules of the Road: Examining Legislation to Modernize the Clean Air Act's Mobile Source Requirements."

During the hearing, Gelb highlighted the critical role that diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) and selective catalytic reduction (SCR) technology play in achieving the near-zero emissions of modern diesel engines while delivering fuel savings for customers. Since the introduction of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2010 heavy-duty on-highway standards and subsequent nonroad standards, advanced diesel engines equipped with SCR systems have contributed to a nearly 79 percent reduction in NO_X emissions.

"We have a decades-long history of working constructively with Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency, state regulators, fleets, equipment owners, and dealers to develop technologies that achieve significant emission reductions while preserving the performance, durability, and affordability that our customers require," Gelb said in her written remarks.

"Without a sufficient quantity of adequate quality DEF onboard the vehicle or equipment, the engine and aftertreatment systems will not function properly," Gelb stated. "EPA determined that the operator must be induced to replenish the onboard DEF supply… However, real-world experience has shown that some inducement requirements can create operational burdens, restricting our customers' ability to deliver their load or finish their task."

Gelb continued, "Over the past year, EMA has worked constructively with EPA to develop practical improvements to these requirements. EPA's new guidance provides manufacturers with greater flexibility to reduce operational disruptions while still ensuring DEF is onboard and emissions systems continue to function as intended."

Gelb commended Rep. Julie Fedorchak (R-ND) for introducing legislation that would codify EPA's guidance aimed at reducing DEF-related burdens and operational disruptions for equipment operators while providing manufacturers with the regulatory certainty needed to continue to advance EPA's emissions objectives. Gelb noted that manufacturers are working with customers in the field to address real-world operational challenges, and Rep. Fedorchak's

legislation would provide an additional layer of certainty for the industry while continuing to support compliance with emissions standards.

Gelb also expressed support for the *Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2025,* co-sponsored by Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA) and Rep. Nick Langworthy (R-NY). The legislation would reauthorize the DERA program, a federal clean air initiative that supports projects that reduce NO_X emissions from diesel vehicles, improve air quality, and protect human health.

Gelb concluded, "As Congress evaluates potential changes to DEF-related requirements, we encourage a balanced approach that ensures DEF is onboard the vehicle or equipment and preserves the fuel savings and performance needs of our customers while addressing legitimate operational impacts and user experiences."

To watch a recording of the hearing, visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGy7552u6Oc.

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The Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA) represents the world's leading manufacturers of internal combustion engines and medium- and heavy-duty commercial vehicles. EMA works with governments and other stakeholders to ensure that regulatory standards are technology feasible, cost effective, and successful. By continually improving engine and vehicle technologies, EMA's members are in the forefront of providing clean and efficient products that meet their customers' business needs.

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