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By Clare Foran ([@ckmarie](#)), Jason Plautz ([@Jason_Plautz](#)), and Ben Geman ([@Ben_Geman](#))

EPA SAYS SYSTEM TO CUT AUTO EMISSIONS IS WORKING WONDERS. EPA [released a report](#) on Friday that assesses automakers' success in meeting greenhouse-gas emissions limits laid out by the agency. According to EPA Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe, the data for model-year 2012 cars and light trucks indicate the program so far has worked even better than expected. "What we've seen in the first year is we're getting more greenhouse-gas reductions than we anticipated," he told reporters in a press call.

But Dan Becker of the Safe Climate Campaign said EPA's rosy picture is misleading. He noted the auto industry's significant reliance on a feature of the program that awards "credits" for making cars that can run on high ethanol blends, and greener air-conditioning systems, arguing the companies were using those systems anyway.

"The credits act like get-out-of-jail-free cards, letting automakers spew an extra 38 million metric tons of carbon dioxide. Without them, only Honda would have met the mileage standard for 2012," Becker's group said in a statement.

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