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Weak Auto Mileage Standards Won't Protect Consumers' Wallets or the Climate

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The Biden administration's weak gas mileage standards do little to help consumers' pain at the pump, since they don't push GM and Toyota to shift from making gas guzzlers that fill the coffers of their golf buddies at Exxon.

This rule is another opportunity Biden's missed. Strong gas mileage standards could've been the biggest single step any nation has taken to slash climate-heating pollution, and they'd save people billions more at the pump.

The final rule is about 2 mpg weaker than the alternative version that the agency considered.

Climate change has gotten much worse, but these rules only require automakers to reduce gas guzzling slightly more than they agreed to cut 9 years ago. They're not strong enough to meet what the President called global warming's existential threat.

Pumping oil from the strategic reserve is the band aid; Strong mileage standards are the cure to pain at the pump.

Automakers have shown they can't be trusted to keep their promises to make clean cars that save people money at the pump and cut pollution. That's why the Biden administration's weak rules should have required them to take gas-saving technology off their shelves and install it on new cars, SUVs and other trucks.

The next set of auto rules Biden will finalize next year have to be as aggressive as possible — as early as possible — to make fast progress in case an anti-environment administration rolls back the longer-term standard as Trump did. Biden's next rule must guard against a future administration blocking climate progress and costing people more at the pump.

We look to California's upcoming clean car standards to show the Biden administration how to set a high bar, requiring automakers to slash emissions and save consumers money at the pump.

The Center for Biological Diversity is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with more than 1.7 million members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places. The [Safe Climate Transport Campaign](#) is a project of the Center.

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