Dear Mr. Hackett and Chairman Ford:

We are writing today on behalf of our millions of members and supporters to urge Ford Motor Company to lead the auto industry transition to a greener, cleaner, healthier future by supporting strong clean car standards.

As you stated in your 2016 sustainability report, “we continue to face challenges that affect lives around the world, from increasing congestion, air quality and the effects of climate change. Their implications are profound and the cost of not addressing them is too high.”

However, your public statements don’t align with your, your company and the auto industry’s multi-year attack on our country’s clean car standards. As a result, the Trump administration is proposing to halt the much-needed progress we are making. While your March 2018 public statement purported to show your company’s commitment to increasing fuel efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from your vehicles, it continued to ask for loopholes to the standards. Asking for “flexibilities” is not protecting the standards; it can be interpreted only as a rollback.

It was Ford’s then-CEO Mark Fields who urged President Trump to initiate this rollback in a White House meeting four days into the new administration. The fruit of this labor—the Trump administration’s proposed freeze of our clean car standards and attack on state authority to protect their own people—only exacerbates many of those “challenges” you previously described. The rollback would lead to an increase in annual CO2 emissions larger than the total emissions from 82% of the countries on Earth by 2035, cost American families as much as $500 more each year at the gas pump, and, by the administration’s own analysis, cost 60,000 American jobs.

Ford’s public response to the announcement was silence.

The time for silence and parsed statements is over. Ford Motor Company must publicly support the existing standards and denounce this administration’s proposed rule. As a leader in the auto industry, Ford should lead the way in increasing efficiency and clean technology innovation. Now is not the time to go backward.

Our future and that of our children very much depend on you.