



# Lead Industries Association, Inc.

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November 5, 1973

SUBJECT: EPA's CATALYTIC  
CONVERTER STUDIES

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION, INC.:

You are undoubtedly aware of recent news stories dealing with EPA's newly discovered misgivings about the use of the catalytic converter. EPA's researchers are now concerned about the possible hazards involved in the use of this device which would require the use of unleaded gasoline. For your information, we are attaching a copy of a news release on this subject by Senator John V. Tunney of California to which the EPA memorandum on the converter was attached.

We thought this information might be helpful in any discussions you might have with your employees, community opinion leaders and, members of Congress. It certainly puts a new light on the lead and gasoline issue.

Very truly yours,

Philip E. Robinson  
Executive Vice President  
Lead Industries Association

PER:mki  
Enclosure

From SENATOR JOHN V. TUNNEY  
Phone: 202/225-5630  
Contact: Jack McDonald  
Sherry Saunders

For IMMEDIATE Release  
October 16, 1973

Senator John V. Tunney (D-Calif.) said today that a recent high level Environmental Protection Agency memorandum indicates that the catalytic converter "may be nothing more than a Frankenstein monster."

"I have long argued that it will cost American motorists billions of dollars annually because of poor mileage and frequent repairs," Tunney said.

"Now an internal EPA memorandum reports that it may pollute our air with more dangerous poisons than it was supposed to eliminate."

"If nothing more, the EPA memo should result in a complete and intensive re-examination of whether the device should be installed in our autos. The memo substantiates the need for an immediate program to develop an alternative to the internal combustion engine, which I long have advocated."

"The memo makes clear it would be extremely reckless to allow the State of California to be used as the guinea pig for testing the effects of the catalyst until the dangers of emissions of acid aerosols, suspended sulfates and noble metals are fully determined."

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Tunney

"EPA Assistant Administrator Stanley Greenfield's memo says that delay in the use of the catalyst for one year would 'not greatly effect projected reductions in ambient levels of carbon monoxide and photochemical oxidants.' In fact he states that 'the differences are not likely to be detected by existing ambient air monitoring stations.'

"A delay obviously is needed in order to assure thorough and systematic testing of these highly questionable devices.

"On the other hand there should be no relaxation of our air quality standards.

"Consequently, I plan to press ahead with my bill for an alternative to the internal combustion engine. Extensive hearings already have been held, and the Commerce Committee shortly will act on the measure."

Attached is the EPA memo.

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