

Climate regs coming for trucks, buses

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The Obama administration will propose the first-ever greenhouse gas emission limits for heavy trucks and buses next week.

The proposal will call for a 20 percent reduction in heat-trapping emissions from trucks' tailpipes, according to Dan Becker, director of the Safe Climate Campaign.

The joint rule from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Transportation Department is the latest in a series aimed at boosting fuel economy and slashing greenhouse gas emissions from cars and trucks.

At the direction of the White House, the agencies will expand the program to include heavy-duty trucks for model years 2014 through 2018 next week, an EPA official said. The agencies have already set standards for cars and light-duty trucks.

Auto manufacturers supported the first round of standards aimed at cars and light-duty trucks, but it's unclear where industry will come down on the truck rules. A spokesperson for the Engine Manufacturers Association wasn't immediately available for comment.

The agencies can expect pushback from greens who want stricter limits.

"What could have been a dramatic cut is instead a modest cut," Becker said. He said he would have preferred a 35 percent reduction.