

The New York Times

Who Are VW's Victims?

JUNE 29, 2016

To the Editor:

Re "[Compensating Volkswagen's Victims](#)" (editorial, June 29):

I am puzzled by the carmaker's agreement to pay the "victims" of the emissions cheating. Who exactly are the victims here?

Is the driver of the car the only person who breathes the car's emissions? How will the payments to the car owners benefit the general public? After all, it is the public who is most affected by the poisoned air. Shouldn't more of that \$14.7 billion be disbursed constructively by using the fund to improve the environment?

A good oversight by independent laboratories to ensure accuracy of emissions tests is, of course, essential. And make their appraisals public if their tests do not coincide with those of the manufacturers.

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