To Whom it May Concern,

As head of the Environmental Protection Agency, my department is very concerned with the amount of gasoline that our country uses on a daily basis. As I am sure you are aware, gasoline is considered a fossil fuel which is a non-renewable resource. Eventually we will run out of oil which is used to create gasoline. This is fast becoming a major problem that engineers around the world are trying to solve.

Although many objects in this world rely on non-renewable resources, there is one that consumes the most and that is our modes of transportation. Whether you use a car, bus, motorcycle, or even a scooter, the odds are that you are using gasoline to get to where you need. Many automobile manufacturers have been working hard to create vehicles that are not relying on gasoline. It is possible that you have ridden in an electric or hybrid car or on a hybrid bus. Unfortunately there are not enough designs or ideas out there to assist in moving us entirely away from fossil fuels.

The Environmental Protection Agency has decided to run a competition for 7th and 8th graders in Washington State to generate ideas for alternative energy powered vehicles. We need the following conditions to be met in order to have your design entered into our competition:

* Cost-efficient
* Powered with alternate energy source (chemical, elastic, etc)
* Operable

Other considerations that you may want to think about when making your car:

* Weight
* Speed
* Appearance
* Reliability

As your work on this project, please keep in mind that when our engineers work to design a project, they often do not get to the best answer the first time. We know that you will probably go through several different designs before you find your favorite. It is of utmost importance that you keep copies of your previous designs and submit them with your final product. We look forward to seeing these designs, your budget, and your test results to show us that your car is operable.

The Environmental Protection Agency would like to thank you for your participation. Good luck to all!

Sincerely,

Michelle Pirzadeh