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**Re: Email for December 8th, 2023**

**To:** "Division, Criminal (CRM)" <Criminal.Division@usdoj.gov>, civil.feedback@usdoj.gov

ChatGPT agrees with me so compulsively that I had almost thought I should question its objectivity. But nope. When I veer off into uncharted territory, meaning places where my knowledge is very lacking, it pushes back on my ideas.

I understand your idea now: adding an additive to vehicle exhaust that would combine with CO<sub>2</sub> and other emissions, making them heavier so they fall to the ground rather than rising into the atmosphere. While this is a creative concept, there are significant challenges and considerations:

1. **Chemical Feasibility**: Finding a substance that can react with CO<sub>2</sub> and other exhaust gases to make them heavier without creating additional harmful byproducts is a complex chemical challenge. CO<sub>2</sub> is a relatively stable molecule and doesn't easily react to form heavier compounds in such conditions.
2. **Environmental Impact**: Even if such emissions were made heavier and settled on the ground, they could still pose significant environmental risks. The resultant compounds could contaminate soil and water, affecting ecosystems and potentially entering the food chain.
3. **Technical and Economic Viability**: Developing, testing, and implementing such a system in all vehicles would be a massive technical and economic undertaking. It would require extensive modification of existing vehicle exhaust systems and ongoing maintenance to ensure effectiveness.
4. **Addressing the Root Cause**: This approach doesn't address the root cause of the problem - the high levels of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases being emitted. It may also distract from more effective solutions, such as reducing fossil fuel use and transitioning to renewable energy sources.
5. **Unintended Consequences**: Introducing new chemicals into the environment, especially at a large scale, could have unforeseen and potentially harmful effects. Environmental science has numerous examples where well-intentioned interventions led to unexpected negative outcomes.

In summary, while the idea of an additive to weigh down exhaust emissions is imaginative, it faces significant chemical, environmental, technical, and practical challenges. The focus is generally better placed on reducing emissions at the source, improving fuel efficiency, and transitioning to cleaner energy alternatives.

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Warmest Regards,

Clint Williams

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