

**The New York Times** | <http://nyti.ms/1VK66nA>

---

The Opinion Pages | LETTER

# Forestall Volkswagen Cheating

OCT. 9, 2015

## To the Editor:

In “VW’s New Chief Says Scandal Will Cost It More Than Expected” (Business Day, Oct. 7), Matthias Müller, the company’s chief executive, is reported to have said that some cars will not need any repairs because the illegal software was not activated.

Hundreds of millions of dollars in fines for environmental damage and penalties ride on the proper classification of the status of these vehicles. Each car should be initially categorized and documented by a non-VW technician to determine whether the cheating software is installed and whether it was activated.

RICHARD L. GARWIN

Scarsdale, N.Y.

*The writer served for four years on the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Motor Vehicle Emissions and Fuel Economy.*

A version of this letter appears in print on October 10, 2015, on page A20 of the National edition with the headline: Forestall VW Cheating.

---

© 20 YOU HAVE READ 5 OF 10 FREE ARTICLES THIS MONTH.

Already a subscriber? [Log in.](#)