

TLU-X Fuel Efficient Replacement Tire Program

Policy Description:

Improve the fuel economy of the light duty vehicle (LDV) fleet by setting minimum energy efficiency standards for replacement tires and requiring that greater information about Low-Rolling Resistance (LRR) replacement tires be made available to consumers at the point of sale. Snow and mud tires LRR tires are currently available and tire manufacturers, such as Michelin, are currently researching and developing fuel efficient “all weather” replacement tires.

Vehicle manufacturers currently use LRR tires on new vehicles, but they are not easily available to consumers as replacement tires. When installing original equipment tires, carmakers use LRR tires to meet federal automobile fuel economy standards (CAFÉ). When replacing the original equipment tires, consumers often purchase less fuel-efficient tires and potentially, more costly tires (depending on annual vehicle miles traveled). Currently, tire manufacturers and retailers are not required to provide information about the fuel efficiency of replacement tires.

An appropriate state agency would initiate a fuel efficient tire replacement program. The program would include consumer education, product labeling, and minimum standards elements. All programs would incorporate the best scientific information, including the test results of tires conducted by the tire manufacturers, the California Energy Commission, and the National Academy of Sciences.

Policy Design:

Goal levels: Establish voluntary energy efficiency standards that achieve an average 4.5% gain in fuel economy.

Timing:

By 20XX, the State or appropriate agency will:

- Initiate a fuel efficient tire replacement program for the state fleet if all season/all weather tires are available and are incorporated into legislatively approved rental rates.
- Establish voluntary energy efficiency standards for replacement tires.
- Develop a marketing program for fuel efficient replacement tires.

By 20XX, the State or appropriate agency will:

- Ensure that all tires replaced on state-owned and leased vehicles will be LRR tires, if available for the vehicle type and are rated for all season/weather service.
- Establish legislation to set LRR standards for tires with mandatory manufacture labeling.

Parties Involved: Department of Natural Resources, Department of Transportation, LRR Manufacturers, Tire Distributors, State University System

Implementation Mechanisms

Related Policies/Programs in place:

Estimated GHG Savings and Cost Per Ton:

| | 2012 | 2020 | 2050 | Units |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------------------------|
| GHG Emission Savings | | | | MMtCO ₂ e |
| Net Present Value (2008-2050) | | | | \$ Million |
| Cumulative Reductions (2008-2050) | | | | MMtCO ₂ e |
| Cost-Effectiveness | | | | \$/MtCO ₂ e |

- Data Sources: **TBD**
- Quantification Methods: **TBD**
- Key Assumptions: **TBD**

Key Uncertainties

TBD

Additional Benefits and Costs

TBD

Feasibility Issues

TBD

Status of Group Approval

TBD

Level of Group Support

TBD

Barriers to Consensus

TBD