

California Energy Commission Fuel Efficient Tire Program

Implementation of AB844

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California Energy Commission Fuel Efficient Tire Program

- Enabling Legislation

- Assembly Bill 844 (Nation, Chapter 645, Statutes of 2003)

Directs the Energy Commission to:

- Adopt a test protocol

- Adopt reporting requirements

- Adopt a rating system

- Establish a database

- Adopt energy efficiency standards, subject to meeting specified conditions



California Energy Commission Fuel Efficient Tire Program

- Applicability:

All passenger vehicle and light duty truck tires manufactured for sale in California.

- Exemptions:

Tires for which only 15,000 or less are produced annually,

Snow tires,

Motorcycle tires,

Space-saver tires (i.e. temporary spare tires),

Tires with a rim diameter of 12 inches or less, and

Off-road vehicle tires.



California Energy Commission Fuel Efficient Tire Program

- Applicability and Exemptions

Questions/Needs:

1. How to make the definitions clear and commonly understood.
2. Are more detailed definitions necessary?
3. Are there standard industry definitions?
4. How many tires/families of tires are covered?



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Phase I Goals:

- Rolling Resistance Test Protocol
- Reporting Requirements
- Rating System
- Verification and Compliance Procedures



California Energy Commission Fuel Efficient Tire Program

- Proposed Rolling Resistance Test Protocol

SAE J1269, force method, single point,
standard reference conditions



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- Proposed Rolling Resistance Test Protocol

Questions/Needs:

1. Is SAE J1269 an acceptable protocol?
2. How to ensure test results from various facilities/labs are comparable?
3. What are the test costs?
4. Are there sufficient test facilities?



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• Proposed Reporting Requirements

- Manufacturer
- Brand Name
- Model Name
- SKU
- Size
- Weight
- Diameter
- Tread Depth
- Load Index
- Speed Rating
- Temperature Rating
- Traction Rating
- Treadwear Rating
- Maximum Load
- Maximum Pressure
- J1269 Rolling Resistance
- J1269 Test Load
- J1269 Test Inflation Pressure



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- Proposed Reporting Requirements

Questions/Needs:

1. Is the data commonly available?
2. Are there preferred reporting systems?
3. Are there foreseeable reporting problems that need to be considered?



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- Rating System

Questions/Needs:

1. What is required for a consumer friendly rating system?
2. What concepts exist for a rating system?
3. Are there any existing models of rating systems that could be applied to tires?
4. If a rating system is based on a “bin/category” concept, how many bins are needed?



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- Proposed Verification and Compliance
 1. Manufacturers required to submit records to substantiate reported data.
 2. Energy Commission to conduct independent tests.
 3. Random and selected testing.
 4. Testing in response to challenges.



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- Proposed Verification and Compliance

Questions/Needs:

1. What steps should be in the process?
2. If a problem is uncovered what are the consequences?
3. How will the costs of verification and compliance be covered?



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