

# **REDUCING PETROLEUM DEPENDENCE: DOUBTS ABOUT LIGHT-DUTY DIESEL**

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Two state agencies, the California Air Resources Board and the California Energy Commission, are engaged in a legislatively mandated process to identify and recommend strategies for reducing the transportation sector's petroleum dependence. Diesel proponents have watched the process closely and contend that increasing the light-duty diesel fleet in California is a viable option for reducing petroleum consumption. However, there are enough concerns about light-duty diesel's costs, ability to meet emissions standards, and climate-forcing characteristics to raise questions about whether diesel is a reasonable petroleum reduction strategy.