



February 18, 2022

BY EMAIL

Bill Moad, Chairman of the Board
Idaho Transportation Department
lorraine.dennis@itd.idaho.gov

Re: Illegal and Dangerous Aftermarket LED Headlights

Dear Bill Moad and Board Members,

The purpose of this letter is to formally notify the Idaho Transportation Department that aftermarket LED headlights have never been approved for use by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration and that use of aftermarket LED headlights is illegal. Because LED headlights are illegal, and because they are toxic, hazardous, and discriminatory, IDT must enforce the law and take action to remove LED headlights from use on Idaho's roads. For example, IDT must ensure that headlights are visually inspected during commercial truck inspections and issue a citation for commercial trucks with aftermarket LED headlights.

Here is a video showing the glare from LED headlights: <https://youtu.be/sQHpkG7Uha>



Figure 1 - Glare from LED Headlights

Figure 2 shows a commercial truck with LED headlights. The use of LED headlights is immediately obvious because the diodes are clearly visible. Therefore, an inspection will only take 30 seconds to identify the use of the illegal LED aftermarket headlights.



Figure 2 - LED Headlights on Commercial Truck

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration issued a letter on August 20, 2020, affirming that no aftermarket LED headlights have ever been approved for use.¹

The Idaho Transportation Department has a duty to protect the residents and guests of Idaho from illegal and dangerous LED headlights. For commercial trucking, IDT should add an LED headlight inspection step to the standard inspection process. For private vehicles, IDT is advised to ensure that vehicle headlights are inspected every two years at an inspection station. Failure of IDT to enforce the existing law puts lives at risk and creates a liability for IDT.

¹ <http://www.softlights.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Leroy-Angeles.pdf>

Sincerely,

Mark Baker

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President

Soft Lights Foundation

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