

March 19, 2022

### **BY EMAIL**

Eric Fygi, Deputy General Counsel Department of Energy eric.fygi@hq.doe.gov

# Re: NHTSA's Technology Addiction

Dear Eric Fygi,

I am following up on our letter to your office on December 14, 2021, for which we received no response.

The US Department of Energy makes the following false claim: *LED is a highly energy-efficient lighting technology*.<sup>1</sup>

DOE also makes the following misleading claim: LEDs emit light in a specific direction.

## Not Energy Efficient

The DOE already knows why the claim that LEDs are energy efficient is false because the DOE publishes the definition of energy efficiency on the Energy Star website: "Energy efficiency means using less energy to get the same job done." LEDs do not get the same job done as incandescent or High-Pressure Sodium because LED does not provide the same high-quality uniform illumination.

The claim that LEDs emit light in a specific direction is misleading because the DOE leaves out the fact that this directional light has non-uniform energy, making the light toxic to human health and providing extremely poor illumination.

We have made a 3:50 minute video the clearly explains thy LEDs are not energy efficient: <a href="https://youtu.be/s-eiP9bRnMM">https://youtu.be/s-eiP9bRnMM</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/led-lighting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.energystar.gov/about/about energy efficiency

### Discrimination

LEDs are also discriminatory, as this light prevents people who are LED-sensitive from accessing government services. On February 3, 2022, Ms. Elaine Dennehy made a heart-breaking presentation to the Irish Joint Committee on Disability Matters, detailing how LED lights prevent her from leaving her house. <a href="https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/joint\_committee\_on\_disability\_matters/2022-02-03/2/">https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/joint\_committee\_on\_disability\_matters/2022-02-03/2/</a>

### Harmful to Human Health

LED streetlights are also cause serious health problems because they interfere with the darkness that occurs during the natural night. A March 14, 2022, study shows that even tiny amounts of artificial light harm human health and that blue wavelength light from LEDs is especially toxic. https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2113290119

Because LEDs are not energy efficient as claimed, because they are discriminatory, and because they harm human health, the DOE must stop using and promoting LEDs and DOE must remove the false claims of energy efficiency from its website and post the corrected information in its place.

I request a response.

Sincerely,

Mark Baker President

Soft Lights Foundation mbaker@softlights.org

Mark Baker

cc: US House Oversight Committee, US Access Board <a href="https://www.energy.gov/gc/contacts-immediate-office-general-counsel-gc-1">https://www.energy.gov/gc/contacts-immediate-office-general-counsel-gc-1</a>

