



## Mileage-Based User Fees: Getting the Trucking Industry to Yes

# Symposium on Mileage-Based User Fees

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## The Roadmap...

- Convince us that the fuel tax must be replaced
- V Convince us that mileage fees...
  - **▼** Are politically viable
  - V Are cost-effective for both carriers and government
  - Can be collected without significant evasion
  - Will not be abused by local jurisdictions
  - **V** Clearly defined mission





## Must the Fuel Tax be Replaced?

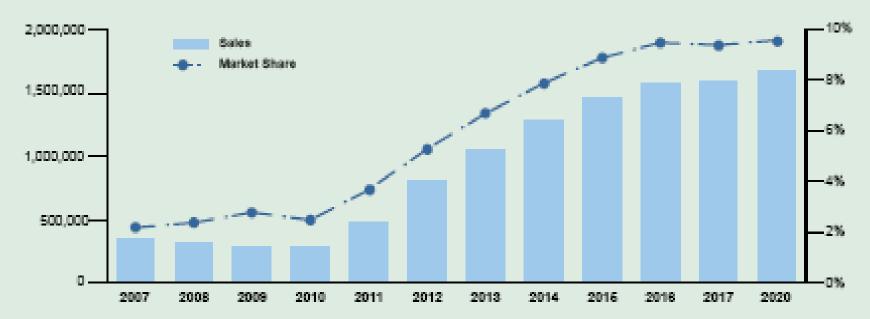
- ▼ J.D. Power "Drive Green 2020: More Hope Than Reality?" – Nov. 2010
  - ▼ Projected Sales of Hybrid-Electric and Battery-Electric
    Vehicles have been overhyped
  - ▼ Consumers are likely to reject HEVs and BEVs due primarily to cost, battery life and performance
  - ▼ Sales a small fraction of overall market absent significant increases in oil prices and/or government intervention
- Some studies project higher shares, but no more than 20% HEV-BEV by 2020





## **HEV Market Share Projections**

#### US: Sales of HEVs and PHEVs—2007-2020



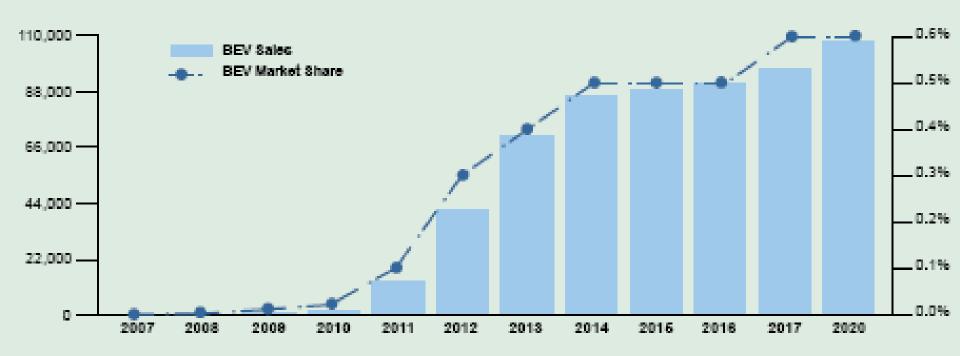
Source: J.D. Power Global Forecasting





## **BEV Market Share Projections**

#### US: Sales of BEVs—2007-2020



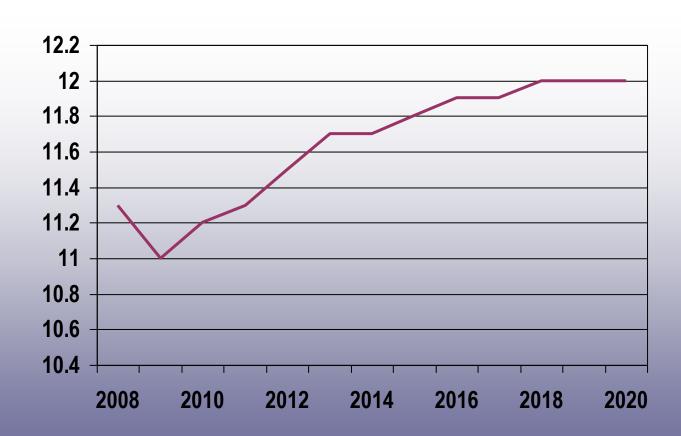
Source: J.D. Power Global Forecasting





# **TRUCKS**

## On-Highway Oil Consumption 2008-2020 Million Barrels Per Day Oil Equivalent



Source: Energy Information Agency, DOE, 2010





## Is the Fuel Tax a Viable Funding Source in the Future?

- ▼ YES in the medium-term
- ▼ The long-term future is uncertain and fuel taxes will likely have to be replaced at some point
- ▼ Impact of government policies (e.g. CAFE) creates some uncertainty about future fuel use
  - ▼ Can be overcome with tax rate increases provided fleet is still dependent on gas and diesel
- ▼ Commercial vehicles slower conversion to alt fuels than passenger, especially non-local





## **Political Viability**

- ▼ Politicians who oppose tax increases won't distinguish between VMT fees and fuel taxes
- ▼ Revenue-neutral VMT fees require a rate increase due to higher collection costs
- Privacy will always be a concern
- ▼ Bipartisan opposition Obama Administration and NRSC both oppose





### **Cost Effectiveness**

- Anticipate extremely high collection costs
- Will carriers be saddled with multiple accounts, lack of uniformity, especially with state-based systems?
- Will carriers be able to recover costs?





### **Evasion and Enforcement**

- ▼ Significant risk of evasion; high enforcement costs
  - ▼ Federal fuel tax has 1,000 taxpayers
  - 208 million drivers
  - ▼ 248 million registered vehicles
  - ▼ By comparison, IRS processed 237 million tax returns in 2009
- Trucking
  - ▼ 27 million commercial trucks
  - ▼ More than 500,000 companies operating trucks
  - ▼ 90% operate 6 or fewer trucks; 97% operate fewer than 20 trucks
  - Larger fleets more likely to be targeted, creating unlevel playing field
- Technology can be defeated





### **Local Jurisdictions**

Who decides which jurisdictions can charge a fee?

Who decides what the rate is?

▼ Multiple accounts?





### What is the Mission?

- ▼ System costs for revenue collection only are very different from system costs for revenue collection plus achievement of other goals
- ▼ Congestion pricing have trucking impacts been considered? Political feasibility?
- ▼ Promote fuel efficiency?
- ▼ Regulate truck routing or commodities?