Comments on GFEI Progress Report

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What are realistic prospects for ultra-efficient vehicles?

- Onroad vs. test fuel efficiency – higher efficiency vehicles seem to have stronger adjustment factors; more vulnerable to high accessory loads
- Will ultra-efficient vehicles be consumer-friendly?
  - Engine downsizing with lower loads and turbo-charging is crucial to efficiency
  - Efficiency testing typically done with 2 passengers, light cargo
  - What happens in the real world??????
    - Going on vacation with the family? How about 2 adults, 3 teenagers, full cargo….and why not put a canoe on the roof?
    - High load vehicles have lots of spare power…..but not so with our 90 g/km car of the future
Other issues I’m concerned about:

- Developing nations: future changes in fleet characteristics – With growing incomes, can we really avoid a drift to larger, more luxurious (and less efficient) cars?

- Tires play a crucial role in efficiency – we need measures to ensure that replacement tires are as good as OEM tires

- If we “need” plug-in hybrids to achieve our goals – we desperately need major gains in batteries and a low carbon grid