

Eco-Friendly Taxis

Who is this Reference Sheet for?

This Guide is for taxi applicants and licensees in British Columbia that are required to operate eco-friendly taxis as well as taxi companies seeking to reduce fuel costs and CO2 emissions.

What does it do?

This guide can help you:

- Understand the Board's eco-friendly taxi policy
- Identify vehicle models that fall within the Board's definition of eco-friendly taxi
- Use online tools for finding vehicles with lower fuel costs and less CO2 emissions

Overview

The Passenger Transportation Board encourages taxi companies to use taxicabs with low carbon emissions. Eco-friendly taxis are used in many cities and towns in British Columbia because it makes good business sense. In Metro Vancouver and the Capital Regional District, the Board requires licensees to use of eco-friendly taxis when a taxi company expands its taxi fleet. The Board may, if it approves additional vehicle applications elsewhere in the province, notify applicants that it is applying the policy. The eco-friendly taxi policy does not apply to wheelchair accessible taxis. The Board defines eco-friendly taxis based on fuel consumption ratings and vehicle classes published by Natural Resources Canada (NRC).

Eco-Friendly Taxi Policy (excerpt)

When an applicant seeks to start or expand a fleet of taxis, the Board applies the three-part test. This is set out in section 28(1) of the Passenger Transportation Act.

If the Board approves an increase in the supply of taxis in ***Metro Vancouver*** or the ***Capital Regional District (CRD)***, all conventional taxis must be eco-friendly vehicles.

The Board may require the use of eco-friendly taxis in ***other areas of the province*** if it approves an application for new or additional taxis. Before issuing a decision, the Board will advise an applicant of its intent to apply the policy. The applicant will have an opportunity to respond.

Source: [Operational Policy IV.2](#)

What is an eco-friendly taxi?

Eco-friendly taxis (EFTs) must be a 2006 model or newer. Also, the vehicle's combined fuel consumption ration (CFCR) cannot exceed the maximum for the vehicle type. Details are set out in Table 1.

Table 1: EFT Vehicles Types & Maximum CFCR

	Type A Any Vehicle	Type B Full Size & SUVs	Type C Vans
Maximum CFCR	6.9 litres per 100 km	8.0 litres per 100 km	10.1 litres per 100 km
Examples¹	Prius, Toyota Corolla, Electric Vehicles	Ford Escape Hybrid; Hyundai Sonata	Mazda 5; Toyota Sienna

¹ Maximum CFCR criteria may not be met in some model years and some editions of a particular vehicle. The examples provided here merely provided as a quick illustration.

How are vehicle types defined?

The Board's three types of eco-friendly taxis (shown in Table 1) are based on vehicle classes defined by Natural Resources Canada (NRC). Type A (any type) can include any 2006 vehicle that meets the CFCR criteria. Type B is limited to Sport-Utility Vehicles (SUVs) and full-size cars. NRC vehicle lists use the following codes for these types of vehicles:

- SP: Special Purpose Vehicle
- US: Small SUV
- UL: Standard SUV
- L: Large Vehicle

Type C vehicles are vans. NRC vehicle lists identify vans with these vehicle class codes:

- V: Minivan
- F: Large Van
- FP: Passenger Van

Do electric vehicle meet EFT criteria?

Yes. There are no emissions. If used, they would meet the Board's criteria for an eco-friendly taxi.

Where can I get fuel consumption details?

Natural Resources Canada (NRC) publishes fuel consumption ratings for all vehicle models used in Canada since 2006 (and earlier). The NRC database reports ratings for both city and highway driving conditions. Access the database online with the NRC [vehicle search tool](#).

How do I calculate CFCR?

The NRC does not report the combined fuel consumption rating (CFCR). To calculate the CFCR for a vehicle, add 55% of the vehicle's city rating and 45% of its highway rating. Table 2 provides an example.

Table 2: Sample CFCR Calculation

Rating Type	Fuel Consumption Rating		Weighting		Calculation Results
City	6.5 L/100 km	X	55%	=	3.58
Highway	5.8 L/100 km	X	45%	=	2.61
CFCR					6.2 L/100 km

Are CFCR lists available?

The Board posted several lists and guides with information about specific models. They are posted on the Board’s web page for [eco-friendly vehicles](#).

For 2006 – 2010 model years, the Board posted eco-friendly taxi guides that identifies models that meet the criteria for eco-friendly taxis. These lists are limited to the types of vehicles that are commonly used as taxicabs.

Starting with 2011 model years, the Board posted more comprehensive lists of vehicles and their CFCR. These lists identify vehicles that meet the Board’s criteria for eco-friendly taxis. They can also be used to identify the CFCR of vehicles that do not meet the criteria.

Information Source

Vehicle information posted by the Board originates from the NRC. This includes CFCRs that the Board calculates based on the city and highway ratings published by NRC. ***If there is a discrepancy between NRC data and the data or calculations reprinted in a Passenger Transportation Board document, the NRC data takes precedence.***

Why do some vehicles have more than one CFCR?

Some vehicle models have different editions. Each edition may have a different type of engine and transmission, or a different size of engine. These differences affect fuel

consumption, and each edition has its own fuel consumption rating. Some editions of the same vehicle model may meet the Board’s eco-friendly criteria when others do not.

To illustrate, Table 3 shows the CFCR for three of nine editions of the 2013 Ford Escape. As an SUV, this model falls into Category B. The CFCR must be 8.0 litres per 100 km or less to be an eco-friendly taxi.

Table 3: Example of CFCRs for Different Vehicle Configurations (2014 Ford Escape)

Ford Escape Models (2014)	CFCR (litres per 100 km)	Eco-Friendly Taxi?
Hybrid * FWD	6.1	Yes
Hybrid AWD	6.9	Yes
Non-Hybrid	8.2	No

Note: There are more than three editions of the 2013 Ford Escape. Natural Resources Canada provides highway and city fuel consumption ratings for 9 editions in total. The CFCRs range from 6.1 (Hybrid FWD) to 14.2 (4X4 FFV).

Where can I get more information?

- PT Board | [EFT Webpage & Vehicle Lists](#)
- PT Board | [Operational Policy IV.2: Eco-Friendly Taxis](#)
- PT Branch | [Provincial & Federal Commercial Vehicle Safety Requirements](#)
- Natural Resources Canada | [Resources for buying a fuel-efficient vehicle](#)
- Natural Resources Canada | [Vehicle Search Tool for Fuel Consumption Ratings](#)