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EFFECT OF DIGITAL ECONOMY ON ECO-EFFICIENCY: MICRO-EVIDENCE FROM CHINA

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Abstract

Drawing upon comprehensive data from China, this study analyzes how digital economy influences corporate eco-efficiency. Empirical results demonstrate that digital economic development significantly improves firms' eco-efficiency. We identify that the digital economy fosters corporate eco-efficiency by stimulating green technological innovation, accelerating low-carbon energy transition, and optimizing productivity. This positive effect is more pronounced for high-tech and non-state-owned enterprise as well as those operating under stringent local environmental governance. These findings provide both theoretical support and practical guidance for advancing firms' sustainable transformation during the current digitalization era.

Key words: digital economy, corporate eco-efficiency, green technological innovation, low-carbon energy transition, productivity improvement

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