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[FR Doc. 2021-13774 Filed 6-29-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### 10 CFR Part 430

[EERE-2019-BT-STD-0043]

RIN 1904-AE61

#### Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Dehumidifiers

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Extension of public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** On June 4, 2021, the U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) published a request for information (“RFI”) pertaining to the energy conservation standards for dehumidifiers. The notice provided an opportunity for submitting written comments, data, and information by July 6, 2021. On June 18, 2021, DOE received a request from the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (“AHAM”) to extend the public comment period by 30 days. DOE has reviewed this request and is granting a 15-day extension of the public comment period to allow public comments to be submitted until July 21, 2021.

**DATES:** The comment period for the RFI published on June 4, 2021 (86 FR 29964), is extended. DOE will accept comments, data, and information regarding this RFI on or before July 21, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are encouraged to submit comments using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Alternatively, interested persons may submit comments, identified by docket number EERE-2019-BT-STD-0043 by any of the following methods:

1. *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

2. *Email:* To [Dehumidifiers2019STD0043@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Dehumidifiers2019STD0043@ee.doe.gov). Include docket number EERE-2019-BT-STD-0043 in the subject line of the message.

No telefacsimilies (“faxes”) will be accepted.

Although DOE has routinely accepted public comment submissions through a variety of mechanisms, including postal mail and hand delivery/courier, the Department has found it necessary to make temporary modifications to the comment submission process in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. DOE is currently suspending receipt of public comments via postal mail and hand delivery/courier. If a commenter finds that this change poses an undue hardship, please contact Appliance Standards Program staff at (202) 586-1445 to discuss the need for alternative arrangements. Once the COVID-19 pandemic health emergency is resolved, DOE anticipates resuming all of its regular options for public comment submission, including postal mail and hand delivery/courier.

*Docket:* The docket for this activity, which includes **Federal Register** notices, comments, and other supporting documents/materials, is available for review at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). All documents in the docket are listed in the [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) index. However, not all documents listed in the index may be publicly available, such as information that is exempt from public disclosure.

The docket web page can be found at: [www.regulations.gov/docket/EERE-2019-BT-STD-0043](http://www.regulations.gov/docket/EERE-2019-BT-STD-0043). The docket web page contains instructions on how to access all documents, including public comments, in the docket.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Bryan Berringer, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies Office, EE-5B, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 586-0371. Email: [ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov](mailto:ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov).

Mr. Pete Cochran, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, GC-33, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 586-9496. Email: [Peter.Cochran@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Peter.Cochran@hq.doe.gov).

For further information on how to submit a comment or review other public comments and the docket contact

the Appliance and Equipment Standards Program staff at (202) 287-1445 or by email:

[ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov](mailto:ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 4, 2021, DOE published an RFI seeking data and information that could enable the agency to determine whether DOE should propose a “no-new-standard” determination because a more stringent standard: Would not result in a significant savings of energy; is not technologically feasible; is not economically justified; or any combination of the foregoing. 86 FR 29964. On June 18, 2021, an interested party in the matter, AHAM, requested a 30-day extension of the public comment period for the RFI.<sup>1</sup> AHAM asked for this additional time given that comments on DOE’s preliminary technical support document for clothes dryers are also due on July 6, 2021. In addition, AHAM commented that the industry is spending a considerable amount of time responding to proposals from Natural Resources Canada related to five categories of home appliances, as well as DOE’s proposed test procedure for direct heating equipment. AHAM stated that it understands and appreciates that DOE is working to move quickly on a number of rulemakings to satisfy the President’s climate objectives as well as advance rulemakings that have missed statutory deadlines. AHAM noted that the statutory deadline for dehumidifiers is a year away and, thus, asserted that a brief delay in the comment period should not negatively impact DOE’s ability to meet this deadline, nor should it detract from DOE’s ability to catch up on other rulemakings, but it would significantly assist AHAM and its members in providing quality input on DOE’s RFI.

DOE has reviewed the request and is extending the comment period to allow additional time for interested parties to submit comments. As noted, the RFI was issued as part of the preliminary stage of a rulemaking to consider amendments to the energy conservation standards for dehumidifiers. If DOE determines that amended energy conservation standards may be appropriate, additional notices will be

<sup>1</sup> AHAM submitted the request to DOE via email.

published (e.g., a notice of proposed rulemaking), providing interested parties additional opportunity to submit comments. As such, DOE has determined that a 15-day extension is sufficient for this preliminary stage. Therefore, DOE is extending the comment period to July 21, 2021.

### Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on June 25, 2021, by Kelly Speakes-Backman, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC on June 25, 2021.

**Treana V. Garrett,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.*

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**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### 10 CFR Part 430

[EERE-2019-BT-TP-0026]

#### **Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Consumer Products; Early Assessment Review: Dehumidifiers**

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Request for information.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) is undertaking an early assessment review to determine whether to proceed with a rulemaking to amend the test procedure for dehumidifiers. Through this request for information (“RFI”), DOE seeks data and information regarding issues pertinent to whether an amended test procedure would more accurately or fully comply with the requirement that the test procedure produces results that measure energy use during a representative average use cycle for the product

without being unduly burdensome to conduct. DOE welcomes written comments from the public on any subject within the scope of this document (including topics not raised in this RFI), as well as the submission of data and other relevant information.

**DATES:** Written comments and information are requested and will be accepted on or before July 30, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are encouraged to submit comments using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Alternatively, interested persons may submit comments, identified by docket number EERE-2019-BT-TP-0026, by any of the following methods:

1. **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

2. **Email:** to [Dehumidifier2019TP0026@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Dehumidifier2019TP0026@ee.doe.gov). Include docket number EERE-2019-BT-TP-0026 in the subject line of the message.

No telefacsimilies (“faxes”) will be accepted. For detailed instructions on submitting comments and additional information on this process, see section III of this document.

*Although DOE has routinely accepted public comment submissions through a variety of mechanisms, including the Federal eRulemaking Portal, email, postal mail, or hand delivery/courier, the Department has found it necessary to make temporary modifications to the comment submission process in light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. DOE is currently suspending receipt of public comments via postal mail and hand delivery/courier. If a commenter finds that this change poses an undue hardship, please contact Appliance Standards Program staff at (202) 586-1445 to discuss the need for alternative arrangements. Once the Covid-19 pandemic health emergency is resolved, DOE anticipates resuming all of its regular options for public comment submission, including postal mail and hand delivery/courier.*

**Docket:** The docket for this activity, which includes **Federal Register** notices, comments, and other supporting documents/materials, is available for review at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). All documents in the docket are listed in the [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) index. However, some documents listed in the index, such as those containing information that is exempt from public disclosure, may not be publicly available.

The docket web page can be found at [\[www.regulations.gov\]\(http://www.regulations.gov\). The docket web page contains instructions on how to access all documents, including public comments, in the docket. See section III for information on how to submit comments through \[www.regulations.gov\]\(http://www.regulations.gov\).](http://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=EERE-</a></p>
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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Bryan Berringer, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies Office, EE-5B, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC, 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 586-0371. Email: [ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov](mailto:ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov).

Mr. Pete Cochran, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, GC-33, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 586-9496. Email: [Peter.Cochran@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Peter.Cochran@hq.doe.gov).

For further information on how to submit a comment or review other public comments and the docket, contact the Appliance and Equipment Standards Program staff at (202) 287-1445 or by email: [ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov](mailto:ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov).

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#### I. Introduction

DOE established an early assessment review process to conduct a more focused analysis that would allow DOE to determine, based on statutory criteria, whether an amended test procedure is warranted. The purpose of this review is to limit the resources, from both DOE and stakeholders, committed to rulemakings that will not satisfy the requirements in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended (“EPCA”),<sup>1</sup> that an amended test procedure more accurately or fully comply with the requirement that the test procedure produces results that measure energy use during a representative average use cycle or

<sup>1</sup> All references to EPCA in this document refer to the statute as amended through the Energy Act of 2020, Public Law 116-260 (Dec. 27, 2020).