

MISSED DEADLINES FOR APPLIANCE STANDARDS

Prepared by the Appliance Standards Awareness Project (updated November 13, 2018)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is required by law to review each national appliance standard every six years and publish either a proposed rule to update the standard or a determination that no change is warranted. If DOE publishes a proposed rule, a final rule is due two years later.

As of November 2018, DOE had missed legal deadlines for sixteen product standards.¹ Based on the current rate of progress, DOE likely will miss another nine deadlines for proposed or final standards due by January 2021, including electric motors, distribution transformers, commercial refrigerators and furnace fans.

Missed standards deadlines as of November 2018

Product	Required rulemaking step	Legal deadline
Small electric motors	Proposed rule	March 2016
Pool heaters	Proposed rule	April 2016
Water heaters	Proposed rule	April 2016
Clothes dryers	Proposed rule	April 2017
Room air conditioners	Proposed rule	April 2017
Cooking products	Final rule	June 2017
Refrigerators and freezers	Proposed rule	September 2017
Fluorescent lamp ballasts	Proposed rule	November 2017
Dedicated outdoor air systems	Proposed rule	April 2018
Computer room A/Cs	Proposed rule	April 2018
VRF A/Cs and heat pumps	Proposed rule	April 2018
Commercial water heaters	Final rule	May 2018
Residential clothes washers	Proposed rule	May 2018
Evaporatively-cooled com. ACs	Proposed rule	May 2018
Water-cooled com. ACs	Proposed rule	May 2018

Savings at stake

Missed deadlines for updating appliance standards result in lost savings for consumers and businesses. A 2016 ASAP/ACEEE report, [Next Generation Standards](#), found that updates to existing appliance standards could save consumers and businesses about \$43 billion each year on their utility bills by 2035.

Test procedures also overdue

DOE has also missed a dozen legal deadlines for updating test procedures. Updated test procedures should be completed in advance of the product standards review process.

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¹ In addition, a court settlement required DOE's "best efforts" to complete a final standard for furnaces by April 2016.