MISSED DEADLINES FOR APPLIANCE STANDARDS

Prepared by Appliance Standards Awareness Project
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DOE's legal obligation to update appliance standards

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.

Missed deadlines

As of January 2018, DOE had missed legal deadlines for eight products:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Required rulemaking step</th>
<th>Legal deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small electric motors</td>
<td>Proposed rule</td>
<td>March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool heaters</td>
<td>Proposed rule</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water heaters</td>
<td>Proposed rule</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clothes dryers</td>
<td>Proposed rule</td>
<td>April 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room air conditioners</td>
<td>Proposed rule</td>
<td>April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooking products</td>
<td>Final rule</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refrigerators and freezers</td>
<td>Proposed rule</td>
<td>September 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluorescent lamp ballasts</td>
<td>Proposed rule</td>
<td>November 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Another four proposed or final rules for standards are due before the end of 2018, covering
clothes washers, commercial boilers, commercial water heaters and several types of commercial
air conditioning products. DOE has also missed six legal deadlines for updating test procedures.
The Trump administration’s fall 2017 Regulatory Plan moved most of the already overdue
standards and those with deadlines coming up in 2018 to “long-term action” status, indicating that
they do not plan to work on them this year.

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.

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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.