Appliance Standards Awareness Project American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy National Consumer Law Center

March 7, 2025

Dr. Carl Shapiro
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Building Technologies Office, EE-2B
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

RE: Docket Number EERE-2024-BT-TP-0009: Test Procedures for Residential and Commercial Clothes Washers and Consumer Clothes Dryers

Dear Dr. Shapiro:

This letter constitutes the comments of the Appliance Standards Awareness Project (ASAP), American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), and the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) on behalf of its low-income clients on the delay of effective date for the clothes washer and dryer test procedure final rule. 90 Fed. Reg. 9002 (February 5, 2025). We appreciate the opportunity to provide input to the Department.

DOE should not further delay the effective date of the clothes washer and dryer test procedure final rule. Over the last several years, clothes washer and dryer manufacturers have experienced supply shortages in the test cloth used for testing their products. In May 2024, the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) sent a letter urging DOE to allow the use of alternate test cloth for clothes washer and dryer testing. The January 2025 final rule, which allows use of an alternative test cloth and relaxes some of the test cloth requirements, provides more flexibility in the sourcing of test cloth for clothes washer and dryer manufacturers. While this delay of effective date does not affect the compliance date of the amended test procedures, further delays would harm manufacturers by creating uncertainty and potentially limiting the allowable test cloth needed for testing clothes washers and dryers.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Dunklin, PhD

Senior Technical Advocacy Associate

Appliance Standards Awareness Project

Matt Malinowski Director, Buildings Program

Director, Banangs Frogram

American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

¹www.regulations.gov/comment/EERE-2024-BT-TP-0009-0001

²90 Fed. Reg. 5519, 5521, 5522 (January 17, 2025).

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National Consumer Law Center

(On behalf of its low-income clients)