

DOE Retrospective Review Plan Report
January 2012

Agency/ Sub- agency	RIN/ OMB Control Number	Title of Initiative/ Rule/ICR	Brief Description	Actual or Target Completion Date	Anticipated savings in costs and/or information collection burdens, together with any anticipated changes in benefits (please quantify, to the extent feasible, and also specify baseline, time horizon, and affected groups)	Progress updates and anticipated accomplishments	Notes
DOE/GC	N/A	Request for information on reducing regulatory burden	DOE is continually engaging in review of its rules to determine whether there are burdens on the public that can be avoided by amending or rescinding existing requirements. To that end, while DOE is always open to receiving information about the impact of its regulations, it published this RFI to solicit public input.	December 5, 2011 (76 FR 75798)	This information solicitation is expected to lead to savings in costs and/or information collection burdens that will be accomplished through and quantified in future actions.	This is the first comment solicitation conducted pursuant to DOE's finalized EO 13563 Retrospective Review Plan.	

DOE/EE	1904-AB57	Proposed Energy Conservation Standards for Battery Chargers and External Power Supplies	DOE proposes amended energy conservation standards for Class A EPSs and new energy conservation standards for non-Class A EPSs and battery chargers.	January 2012	These nationwide standards would be expected to eliminate industry burden in complying with a patchwork of state standards – for publicly available information on standards development in California, see .e.g, http://www.energy.ca.gov/appliances/battery_chargers/ and http://www.energy.ca.gov/2011publications/CEC-400-2011-001/CEC-400-2011-001-SD.PDF .	Pending E.O. 12866 review. More information can be found on www.reginfo.gov .	
DOE/EE	1904-AB90	Energy Conservation Standards for Residential Clothes Washers	DOE establishes amended energy conservation standards for residential clothes washers.	January 2012	These standards would be expected to minimize industry burden because the standards were developed and submitted to DOE as a consensus agreement signed by all major manufacturers of these products. DOE believes that the consensus agreement process will lead to standards that minimize manufacturer burden.	Pending E.O. 12866 review. More information can be found on www.reginfo.gov .	

DOE/GC	1990-AA34	National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures	DOE finalized changes to its existing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations. The changes, proposed primarily for the categorical exclusions provisions, are intended to better align DOE's categorical exclusions with current activities and recent experiences, and to update the provisions with respect to current technologies and regulatory requirements.	October 13, 2011 (76 FR 63764)	Changes made by this rulemaking are expected to save the taxpayers as much as \$100 million over ten years and provide greater transparency to the public as to the NEPA standards that DOE employs in analyzing particular technologies.	DOE included the proposed rule in its final EO 13563 plan, available at http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/other/2011-regulatory-action-plans/departofenergyregulatoryreformplanaugust2011.pdf .	
DOE/EE	1904-AC04; 1904-AC52	Energy Conservation Standards for Distribution Transformers	DOE is currently conducting a negotiated rulemaking to develop proposed standards for distribution transformers.	January 2012	DOE is required by consent decree to publish amended standards for distribution transformers by February 1, 2012. DOE is conducting a negotiated rulemaking to develop proposed standards. DOE believes that the negotiated	Pending E.O. 12866 review. More information can be found on www.reginfo.gov .	

					rulemaking process will provide valuable information to DOE and lead to standards that minimize the burden on manufacturers and consumers of distribution transformers.		
DOE/EE	1904-AC58	Test Procedure Compliance Date for Walk-In Coolers and Freezers and Metal Halide Ballasts and Fixtures	DOE published a final rule to, among other things: (1) clarify the compliance date by which manufacturers must use portions of the test procedure published on April 15, 2011 when certifying walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers; and (2) adopt an extension to the compliance date for which manufacturers, including importers, need to certify compliance to the Department of metal halide lamp ballasts and fixtures.	October 21, 2011 (76 FR 65362)	In response to concerns raised by manufacturers, this rule clarifies when use of the amended test procedure is required to certify walk-in coolers and freezers. The rule also provides additional time before submission of certification reports is required metal halide lamp ballasts and fixtures.	The rule was issued in October 2011.	

DOE/EE	1904-AC08	Test Procedure for Residential Clothes Washers	DOE published a supplemental proposed rule to amend the definition of the energy test cycle to provide further clarity to ensure that the test procedure is representative of consumer behavior and repeatable among different test laboratories.	November 9, 2011 (76 FR 69870)	In response to comments from interested parties, DOE proposed to amend the definition of the energy test cycle to provide clarity to manufacturers and other interested parties on the requirements of the test procedure and to minimize the test burden on manufacturers while ensuring that the test procedure results in measurements that are representative of average consumer use	The rule was issued in November 2011.	
DOE/EE	1910-5156	Utility Billing information collection request (ICR)	DOE reduced the number of responses for its utility billing ICR 608,424 to 60,629. Burden hours for this ICR were reduced from 312,500 to 29,998. The cost of the ICR was reduced from \$428,000 to \$37,000.	December 8, 2011.	As a result in the reduction of responses for this ICR, burden hours for this ICR were reduced from 312,500 to 29,998. The cost of the ICR was also reduced from \$428,000 to \$37,000.	More information is available at reginfo.gov .	

DOE/EE	1910-NEW	Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) ICR	DOE is initiating this ICR to determine the effectiveness of WAP during the ARRA-period, 2009-2011.	In Progress	<p>DOE proposes to use shorter forms, pre-populate some surveys with data from previous surveys or from the Weatherization Program's online reporting data system; consolidating utility bill collection requests; and extract more information from available electronic databases directly rather than burdening grantees or subgrantees.</p> <p>Requesting utility bills and other relevant household data in electronic format will ease the reporting burden of the utilities and local agencies providing the information and will yield information in a form that is easier for the evaluation contractor to process. These steps are expected to reduce the response burden required by utilities, state and</p>	Pending OMB review. More information is available at reginfo.gov .	
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DOE/EE	1910-5150	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program Status Report information collection request (ICR)	DOE proposes to eliminate monthly reporting for EECBG formula grants; remove selected data fields from the required quarterly report for EECBG formula grant recipients; and improve the user interface of PAGE, EECBG's web-based reporting system for formula grant recipients.	In progress	These steps are expected to reduce paperwork burden imposed on recipients of DOE's financial assistance.	Expected to be submitted for OMB review in Spring 2012.	
DOE/EE	1904-AC46	Alternative Efficiency Determination Methods and Alternate Rating Methods rule	DOE has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking on August 18, 2011, considering the use alternative efficiency determination methods (AEDMs),	In progress	This effort is expected to reduce testing burden and eliminate as much as \$500 million dollars of testing costs. It is particularly significant as industry has suggested that testing under the	Currently evaluating comments from proposed rule.	

			such as computer modeling, (Status: In Progress)		current rule could take several years to complete and undermine their research and development efforts.		
DOE/FE		Strategic Petroleum Reserve rule	DOE is considering revisions to its regulation concerning sales from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) in the event that the SPR is drawn down to respond to a severe energy supply interruption or to meet obligations of the United States under the International Energy Program.	In progress	This rule is expected to reduce the burden on applicants for sales from the SPR by streamlining the process for periodic review and publication of the standard contract provisions. The rule would also require that sales of petroleum withdrawn from the SPR be sold at public sale to the highest qualified bidder after issuance of a notice of sale considered appropriate by DOE, as required by section 161 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended.	This rule is currently under development at DOE.	

DOE/EE		Consumer welfare and use of price forecasts made in applying learning curve analyses	DOE seeks comment in its energy conservation standards rulemakings on how to assess the potential impact of energy conservation standards on consumer choice and how to quantify any such impact in its regulatory analysis.	In progress	As required by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, DOE considers impacts to manufacturers and consumers, as well as other factors, in determining whether a new or amended standard achieves the maximum improvement in energy efficiency that is technologically feasible and economically justified.	DOE continues to work with OMB during review of its energy conservation standards under Executive Order 12866/13563 to determine how best to assess and quantify the potential impact of energy conservation standards on consumer choice.	
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