



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Heritage
Australian Greenhouse Office

Dear,

HOME ENTERTAINMENT EQUIPMENT STANDBY INTERIM REQUIREMENTS

On 8 November 2006 the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources the Hon. Ian Macfarlane and the Minister for the Environment and Heritage the Hon. Ian Campbell jointly announced the Australian Government's policy for standby power. Australia has committed to regulate by 2012 all major electronic appliances to meet the 'one watt target' established by the International Energy Agency.

Home entertainment products have been included in an agreed list of products targeted for regulation in the joint Australia-New Zealand work plan for the Equipment Energy Efficiency (E3) Programme covering the triennium 2005-06 to 2007-08. In November 2006 the E3 Committee published a draft report containing a proposal for minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) for home entertainment equipment. The report is available at <http://www.energyrating.com.au/library/details200613-meps-home-entertainment.html>.

A broad 'horizontal' definition is proposed for home entertainment subject to regulation. The definition proposed is all 'commercially available consumer equipment that produces, records or assists in producing an audio or video signal/output'. Two product types specifically covered by regulation (televisions and set top boxes) are excluded from the products subject to low power mode regulation.

On the advice of key industry players, regulators propose to institute an interim stage to assist industry prepare for the one watt regulation - four watts (for all home entertainment products without video recording capabilities) and six watts (for products with video recording capabilities) to commence from October 2008 (see Table 1). This step will allow industry to prepare for the more challenging one watt regulation in 2012.

Table 1

Home Entertainment Product Type	Stage 1 MEPS - \geq October 2008		Stage 2 MEPS - \geq 2012	
	Passive standby	Off	Passive standby	Off
Without video recording capabilities	4 watts	0.3 watts	1 watt*	0.3 watts
With video recording capabilities	6 watts	0.3 watts	1 watt*	0.3 watts

**Auto power down to passive standby after 30 minutes of no AV input or inactivity is also required*

The Ministerial announcement and release of the technical paper in early November 2006 provides two years notice allowing relevant stakeholders time to prepare for the October 2008 MEPS implementation.

Industry associations and members are encouraged to take the opportunity to comment on the draft report. The E3 committee seeks written feedback from stakeholders by Friday 9 February. Written feedback should be sent to simone.tiele@deh.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SHANE HOLT', written in a cursive style.

Shane Holt
Director Equipment Energy Efficiency Team
Australian Greenhouse Office
8 January 2007