



**Australian Government**

**Department of the Environment and Heritage  
Australian Greenhouse Office**

Dear Stakeholder

**PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE STANDBY POWER IN THE ENERGY RATINGS OF CLOTHES WASHERS AND DISHWASHERS**

Australian government agencies responsible for product energy efficiency are currently investigating whether to include standby power in the energy rating of clothes washers and dishwashers.

The regulatory impact statement which addresses this proposal can be found at the following address <http://www.energyrating.gov.au/library/details200605-ris-standby-cw-dw.html> You or your organisation may be interested in commenting upon this proposal.

Standby energy is the energy consumed by a clothes washer or dishwasher when it is not performing its primary function, which is to wash dishes or clothes. In standby mode, the machine is waiting for the user to either initiate the washing cycle or unload the machine and switch it off at the end of the cycle.

The regulatory impact statement addresses a proposal to include the energy used in standby modes in the testing protocols that are used to determine the efficiency ratings (stars) on the label. A revised Standard has been prepared and will be called up under State and Territory legislation.

The proposal is part of Australia's National Greenhouse Strategy and the New Zealand National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy.

This report provides information on the following issues:

- the problem to be addressed
- objectives of the regulation
- proposed regulation and alternatives
- cost to the taxpayer
- business compliance costs
- industry costs, competition and trade
- consumer costs and benefits
- energy use and greenhouse emissions
- national costs and benefits & sensitivity testing

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The Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO) of the Department of the Environment and Heritage will be sending this proposal to interested stakeholders. It will produce a report on stakeholder views for the Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE), prior to that ministerial body making its decision on the regulatory proposal.

The AGO is managing the process of obtaining stakeholder views on the regulatory proposal, which if endorsed by the MCE, will result in an amendment to state and territory legislation removing from sale products that do not meet these standards.

The AGO will accept written submissions from stakeholders until close of business **Friday, 30 June 2006** on any of the issues raised in the document.

Please address your written submissions to:

Ms Liz Pye  
Equipment & Appliances Team  
Australian Greenhouse Office  
Department of the Environment & Heritage  
GPO Box 787  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Or via email to:

[energy.rating@deh.gov.au](mailto:energy.rating@deh.gov.au)

Please use this opportunity to comment on the regulatory proposal.

Yours faithfully



Mr Shane Holt  
Chair  
Equipment Energy Efficiency  
Gas and Electrical Committees  
31 May 2006