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| **Topic: Energy Conservation Standard for Residential Furnace Fans**  **NOPR:** October 25, 2013  **Final Rule:** *December 31, 2014*  *Italics indicate anticipated dates.*  **Potential Effective Date** ­­January 1, 2019 | **Sign-off Deadline: December 20, 2013** |
| **Anticipated Joint Signatories**  CA IOUs will submit comments.  ACEEE and NEEA will likely submit comments. |
| **Industry Allies**  None |
| **Industry Opponents**  Rheem Manufacturing, EEI, and AHRI |
| **Rulemaking Summary**  For the first time, DOE is establishing standards for residential furnace fans. This NOPR proposes standards for equipment classes that comprise ~60% of the market, based on a minimum Fan Energy Rating (FER).  While significant savings are at stake, and DOE’s methodology appears to be grounded in reasonable assumptions, stakeholders insist on DOE delaying a final rule for standards until after publication of the Test Procedure Final Rule. This would allow stakeholders to submit FER and other data using the final calculation methodology. |
| **Summary: IOU Recommendations to DOE**   1. We strongly encourage DOE to expand the scope of the rulemaking to include 100% of the market of furnace fans. This modification would include DOE coverage of blower-coil central air conditioners and heat pumps (CAC/HP), single package CAC/HP, and hydronic air handlers. 2. We recommend that DOE require manufacturers to report power consumption values for heating, cooling, and constant circulation modes in addition to FER and Qmax. 3. We are supportive of DOE’s proposed trial standard level (TSL 4) for the product classes in this rulemaking given the limited impact on furnace fan OEMs, positive benefits to consumers, and substantial energy savings. 4. THD and PF are important factors, and standards for these metrics should be incorporated into future rulemakings; however, we do not think their effects warrant adopting a less stringent TSL or delaying adoption of this rule. 5. DOE should select a lead time between the publication of the Final Rule and the compliance date of three years instead of five years for effective date since industry is already accustomed to manufacturing these fan motors, and they are commercially available. 6. We recommend that DOE verify that the FER standard level equations reflect passing products associated with the assumed design option (i.e., constant-torque BPM motors with multi-stage/modulating controls). 7. We recommend that DOE provide sufficient time between the announcement of the furnace fan test method Final Rule and the release of the energy conservation standards Final Rule, such that stakeholders can review the updates to the Test Procedure, and assess any impact it has on furnace fans with BPM to meet the proposed standard levels. |
| **Portfolio Impacts**  There are no programs that would be affected by this rule. Conversely, with more published data available, this rule could facilitate future programs.  **Estimated First-Year Savings**  52 GWh/yr PG&E beginning 2019  49 GWh/yr SCE beginning 2019  9 GWh/yr SoCalGas beginning 2019  12 GWh/yr SDG&E beginning 2019  **Impact on Voluntary Programs**  2013-2014 Programs \_\_\_\_  Future Programs \_\_\_\_  No Impact \_X\_  **Involvement by Product Development**  Marshall Hunt, Bach Tsan, and Jay Madden |

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| **Key Upcoming Milestones for DOE Rulemakings** | **Letter Due Date** |
| ENERGY STAR Battery Charging System Specification | 12/12/2013 |
| Commercial Refrigeration Equipment Standard | 12/20/2013 |
| ENERGY STAR Commercial Refrigeration Specification | 12/23/2013 |
| General Service Lamps Standard | 1/23/2013 |
| Residential Refrigerators and Freezers Test Procedure | 1/30/2013 |
| Commercial Electric Motors Standard | 1/31/2013 |