|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic: Energy Conservation Standard for Residential Furnace Fans****NOPR:** October 25, 2013 **Final Rule:** *February 27, 2014* *Italics indicate anticipated dates.***Potential Effective Date** February 27, 2019 | **Sign-off Deadline: January 17, 2013** |
| **Anticipated Joint Signatories**CA IOUs will submit comments.ACEEE and NEEA will likely submit comments. |
| **Industry Allies** None |
| **Industry Opponents**Various OEMs, 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 encourage DOE to establish an expedited future rulemaking for furnace fan motors in blower-coil Central Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps (CAC/HP), single package CAC/HP, and hydronic air handlers.The associated test procedure for those furnace fan motors should reference ASHRAE 37-2009.
2. We recommend that DOE require manufacturers to report power consumption values for heating, cooling, maximum, 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 with TSL 4 (i.e., constant-torque BPM motors with multi-stage/modulating controls).
7. We recommend that DOE correct its calculation for airflow in the test procedure so that humidity is captured correctly.
 |
| **Portfolio Impacts**SCE’s HVAC QM program for BPMs has had savings cut by 80% and will therefore experience minor impacts by the proposed or early adoption.**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 \_\_\_\_  Minor Impacts \_X\_ **Involvement by Product Development**Marshall Hunt, Bach Tsan, and Jay Madden |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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 |