

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	25-AAER-01
Project Title:	Administrative Updates to the Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulations
TN #:	267824
Document Title:	RFI for Administrative Updates to the Title 20 Regulations
Description:	Request for Information (RFI) for Administrative Updates to the Title 20 Appliance Regulations. Docket #25-AAER-01. This RFI is requesting information regarding administrative changes to the appliance regulations. The attached document elaborates on the scope of these changes and provides interested stakeholders with instructions on providing their comments. Deadline to submit comments is January 19, 2026.
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Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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CEC-057 (Revised 1/21)



Request for Information (RFI) Administrative Updates to the Title 20 Appliance Regulations

Docket # 25-AAER-01

Responses Due January 19, 2026

Purpose of Request

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is conducting a biennial administrative review of its Appliance Regulations, located in Title 20, Section 1600 through 1609 (relating to efficiency) and 1690 through 1697 (relating to demand flexibility). CEC staff is seeking information from interested members of the public as it considers potential future actions on the following topics:

- Corrections to typographic errors within the code language
- Areas where plainer or more direct language could be used
- Areas where phrasing or organization is confusing and could be improved
- Areas where code provisions could be streamlined while having the same overall effect
- Areas where code provisions are obsolete and in need of improvement or removal

The CEC may also consider other topics throughout the rulemaking process. The CEC is therefore seeking information from affected and interested members of the public to help identify code language in need of administrative correction or improvement as well as to identify potential solutions.

The CEC's goal in requesting information is to provide an opportunity for members of the public to contribute factual information towards its deliberations, and by doing so ensure that decisions are made using the best available information. Received information will be used to inform an administrative rulemaking proceeding planned to take place in early 2026. Recommendations that exceed the scope of an administrative revision are welcome, though associated actions may be deferred to a later rulemaking proceeding.

Background

The Appliance Efficiency Regulations, Title 20, sections 1601-1609, contain definitions, test procedures, efficiency and design standards, enforcement provisions, and marking and certification requirements for state and federally regulated appliances. The Flexible Demand Appliance Standards, Title 20, sections 1690-1697, contain parallel provisions on the separate topic of demand flexibility (i.e., the ability for the user to control when and how energy or water are used by the device). Both regulations require that appliance manufacturers subject to the regulations certify to the CEC that their products meet applicable state and federal regulations before their products can be included in the CEC's database of appliances approved to be sold or offered for sale within California.

Over time, previously adopted regulations can become duplicative, out of date, or require updates to best implement the CEC's legislative mandate. To ensure these regulations reflect current regulatory authority, the CEC is seeking to make updates to align with other applicable law and make clarity or process improvements where there are opportunities to do so.

Staff has compiled an internal list of fixes and corrections known to be needed to code provisions as well as previously received requests from stakeholders. Staff will use responses to this request for information to augment this list. Some of the current tentatively proposed changes include:

- **Federal Alignment:**

These are updates to reflect existing federal law by adding, removing, or amending definitions, testing requirements, and/or performance standards. Some affected appliance types include air cleaners, consumer boilers, pool heaters, clothes dryers, water heaters, cooking products, uninterruptible power supplies, and more.

- **Data Submittal Updates:**

These include changes to add, remove, or amend data fields specified for certain appliance types in Section 1606, Table X, that manufacturers are required to submit when certifying appliance data. The changes are primarily based on associated updates to test requirements and/or performance standards. Air cleaners are proposed to be added as a new appliance type based on their incorporation into federal standards in 10 CFR 430, with required data fields necessary to determine compliance with the federal performance standards. In addition, staff are planning to address a request to streamline data reporting for televisions that was received earlier this calendar year.

- **Removal of Outdated Information:**

Proposed changes will include the removal of performance standards that have not been in effect for several years, including previous tiers of tiered standards. This

includes state-regulated coolers, which have not had performance standards in effect since 2019, air conditioners and heat pumps, and possibly more. Also, the removal of any definitions, citations, and other language that is outdated will be addressed.

- **Clarification and Formatting Updates:**

Staff will propose updates to add clarifying language, make formatting improvements, and provide fixes to typographical errors as needed. The goal of these changes is to improve the overall readability of the regulations.

The scope of what can be considered an administrative revision is limited. The creation, repeal, or amendment of any new or existing design or performance standard would be out of scope for a potential administrative rulemaking action, as it would substantively change the benefits to Californians associated with an adopted regulation. Suggestions for changes to minimum standards or recommendations that are otherwise found to be out of scope for an administrative action are welcome, will be considered by staff, and may occur in the context of future appliance-specific rulemaking.

Request for Responses

This request for information provides interested parties an opportunity to submit for consideration written technical information and comments on the development of administrative updates. Proposed regulatory changes will be based on the proceeding record, which may include technical information provided by CEC staff and the public. Where feasible, comments should be as specific as possible and include examples and recommendations with supporting references. CEC staff will review written comments in-depth and may use the information provided to develop regulatory proposals for the administrative updates.

The following questions are intended to guide responses that are provided to the CEC:

1. Is there any outdated or duplicative information in the regulations?
2. Is there any requirement or text that is currently unclear as written?
3. Does any other set of regulations contradict or create issues regarding compliance with the Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulations or Flexible Demand Appliance Standards?
4. Are there any typographical errors, formatting issues, or other readability issues?

Please note that the CEC is not seeking comments or information regarding the creation, repeal, or amendment of any new or existing design or performance standard for any appliance, as those would fall outside the intended scope of this proposed rulemaking. However, any comments or information received on these topics may be considered in future, separate rulemaking efforts.

Submitting Responses to the CEC Docket

Providing responses to this RFI is highly encouraged to inform CEC's policy decisions and planning processes. Public input is essential to ensure a comprehensive record.

Written responses, comments, proposals, and other technical material must be submitted to the docket linked below by **5:00 PM on January 19, 2026**. Written comments, attachments, and associated contact information (for example, address, telephone number, email address) included in the response will become part of the public record, with access available via any internet search engine.

The CEC encourages use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the [e-commenting page](#):

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/ECommentSelectProceeding.aspx>, which links to the comment page for CEC dockets. Enter your contact information and a comment title describing the subject of your comment(s). Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached in a format consistent with CCR, Title 20, section 1208.1. The maximum file size is 10 MB.

Written materials may also be submitted by email. Include the docket number **25-AAER-01** and "Administrative Updates to Title 20 Appliance Regulations" in the subject line and send to docket@energy.ca.gov.

If preferred, a paper copy may be submitted to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit
Re: Docket Administrative Updates to Title 20 Appliance Regulations (**25-AAER-01**)
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

If interested parties wish to maintain the confidentiality of specific data or information, they should submit an application for confidentiality and the confidential documents directly to the Docket Unit through the e-filing system.

Questions regarding submitting comments to the docket, including inquiries regarding confidentiality, should be referred to the Docket Unit at docket@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-5076.

CEC Contacts

Public Advisor. The CEC's Public Advisor assists the public with participating in CEC proceedings. To request interpreting services, reasonable modification or accommodations, and other modifications, contact the Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 957-7910. Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least five days in advance.

Technical Inquiries. Direct questions on the subject matter of this RFI to appliances@energy.ca.gov.

Media. Email mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 654-4989.

Availability of Documents

All records will be accessible in the (Administrative Updates to the Title 20 Appliance Regulations (**25-AAER-01**)), ([California Energy Commission : Docket Log](#)) at:
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=25-AAER-01>.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those on the "Appliance Efficiency Standards" and "Flexible Demand Appliances and Load Management and Demand Response" listservs. To subscribe to those listservs visit the [Subscriptions](#) at:
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>.