

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the matter of:

Computer and Computer Monitors) Docket No. 20-AAER-03
Proposed Regulations)
_____)

PUBLIC HEARING

Title 20. Public Utilities and Energy
Division 2. State Energy Resources Conservation and
Development Commission
Chapter 4. Energy Conservation
Article 4. Appliance Efficiency Regulations

REMOTE VIA ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020

10:00 A.M.

Reported by:

Martha Nelson

APPEARANCES

COMMISSIONER

Andrew McAllister

CEC STAFF

Corrine Fishman, Regulations Manager

Soheila Pasha, Electrical Engineer

Carlos Baez, Appliances Office

PUBLIC COMMENT

Erica Thomas, Information Technology Industry Council

Shahid Sheikh, Intel Corporation

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 10:02 A.M.

3 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020

4 MS. FISHMAN: My name is Corrine Fishman.
5 I'm the Regulations Manager for the Efficiency
6 Division here at the California Energy
7 Commission. And I want to welcome everybody to
8 the Energy Commission's public hearing for the
9 Computer and Computer Monitor Proposed
10 Regulations.

11 I'll start by going over some general
12 information and housekeeping if we can move to
13 the next slide?

14 This public hearing is being held
15 pursuant to the California Administrative
16 Procedures Act, Government Code 11346.8. It's
17 being held online only due to COVID-19 public
18 health order.

19 The purpose of the public hearing is to
20 collect oral comments for review and
21 consideration related to the Computer and
22 Computer Monitor Proposed Regulations. We will
23 be collecting comments, hearing comments, but we
24 will not be responding to comments today.

25 Copies of the Initial Statement of

1 Reasons, the Notice of Proposed Action, and
2 proposed text are available on the CEC's website.
3 It's Docket 20-AAER-03.

4 This public hearing is being recorded by
5 a Court Reporter. And all statements today
6 become part of the public record.

7 And at this time, we are proposing
8 adoption of these regulations by the Commission
9 at the December 9th, 2020 business meeting.

10 Next slide please.

11 Just a few housekeeping rules.

12 All the lines are muted until after the
13 presentation. Following the presentation, we'll
14 be taking public comment. If you have general
15 clarifying questions, you can type that kind of
16 question into the Q&A section.

17 For any kind of public comments related
18 to the proposed regs, if you want to raise your
19 hand to speak the host will give you the ability
20 to speak, and then you must push the un-mute
21 button.

22 If you're on a cell phone, you can raise
23 your hand by pushing star nine and the host will
24 give you the ability to speak. Then you can
25 speak push star six to mute and un-mute.

1 Because we're recording the public
2 hearing, please state your name and affiliation
3 when speaking.

4 So at this time, I will pass the baton
5 over to Soheila Pasha for her presentation.

6 DR. PASHA: Thank you, Corrine.

7 Good morning. My name is Soheila Pasha.
8 I'm an Electrical Engineer working for the
9 Appliances Office in the Commission's Energy
10 Efficiency Division. I'm presenting an overview
11 of the proposed amendments for the Computers and
12 Computer Monitor Regulations.

13 Let's just start with some background
14 about Computer Regulations. The original
15 Computer Regulations, Computer and Monitor
16 Regulations, were adopted in 2016. The
17 Commission's adoption order for that rulemaking
18 directs Staff to present new technologies,
19 interfaces, features for adoption within six
20 months in response to a petition for a
21 rulemaking.

22 CEC adopted the first amendments to the
23 Computer Regulations in 2017 to incorporate a new
24 technology at that time. Similarly, CEC's
25 proposing amendments to include a set of new

1 technologies in this rulemaking.

2 The 45-day written public comment period
3 for these proposed changes ran from October 2nd
4 through November 16th.

5 Next, I will go over each new technology
6 briefly.

7 The first new technology is a notebook
8 that has a secondary integrated display which can
9 also be used as a touchscreen keyboard. This
10 figure shows a few examples of these new
11 technology notebooks. Proposed changes include a
12 new definition for multi-screen notebooks and a
13 modification to the existing notebook definition
14 to clarify that these devices are considered
15 notebooks and must comply with the notebook
16 standards.

17 Test procedure is also modified to
18 specify the settings for the secondary display.
19 Energy adder for the secondary display applies if
20 the display is enabled when shipped and shows the
21 same test image as the primary screen during
22 testing. Also, Table-X, which includes a list of
23 collected data, is modified to include data
24 related to these notebooks.

25 The next new technology is about

1 computers exhibiting cyclical behavior. These
2 type of computers periodically charge and
3 discharge their battery while connected to a main
4 power source. This will create a pulsing or
5 cyclical power consumption pattern similar to the
6 waveform that you can see in this figure.

7 Since charge and discharge time durations
8 are typically longer than the time durations for
9 the testing, test results would not be reliable
10 unless the test procedure is modified.

11 Proposed changes include a new definition
12 for computers with cyclical behavior and
13 modifications to the test procedure to average
14 the power measurements over a full cycle.
15 However, the modified test procedure does not
16 apply to the computers that support operation
17 without a battery pack when connected to a main
18 power source. Table-X is also modified to
19 collect the related data.

20 The next new technology is an ethernet
21 port with data transfer rate between 1 and 10
22 gigabit per second. Existing regulations provide
23 energy adders for ethernet ports with data
24 transfer rate of more than 25 gigabit per second,
25 and for ethernet ports that meet the add-in card

1 definition.

2 Proposed changes provide an energy adder
3 for the ethernet ports with data transfer rate
4 between 1 and 10 gigabit per second that are
5 integrated on the mother board and, therefore,
6 don't meet the definition for an add-in card.
7 Data related to this type of ethernet port is
8 also collected for Table-X.

9 The last new technology is about the
10 computer gaming monitors with a refresh rate of
11 300 hertz or higher that incorporates incremental
12 hardware-based assistance.

13 Proposed changes add a new definition for
14 this type of high-performance monitors. And
15 because monitors on-mode energy consumption is
16 higher when its refresh rate is higher, this
17 proposal adds a new energy adder to provide an
18 adequate energy allowance for this type of
19 computer monitors. This new energy adder
20 increases as the monitors refresh rate increases
21 but it caps at 480 hertz. Data related to this
22 new technology is also collected for Table-X.

23 This concludes my presentation today.
24 Now we can start taking your comments.

25 MS. FISHMAN: Okay. I'd like to just

1 take a moment, before we move forward, and
2 welcome Commissioner McAllister to our public
3 hearing, and thank you so much for joining us.

4 Commissioner, before we move forward with
5 comments, would you like to make a comment?

6 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah. Thank
7 you, Corrine. I appreciate it.

8 And Soheila, thank you for your
9 presentation. I was just a couple minutes late,
10 so apologies for that. Lots going on these days,
11 nationally and internationally, as you all might
12 imagine.

13 Let's see. So, I wanted to just thank
14 everyone for being here. This update, in my
15 view, is really just kind of a good government
16 update, taking into account movement in the
17 marketplace. And it really comes from listening
18 to stakeholders and moving with the flow of
19 technology. And so we need to be responsive to
20 those developments. And I think Staff has been
21 interacting with stakeholders.

22 We certainly encourage everyone on the
23 line here to opine today and submit comments to
24 make sure we get the specifics right. But I
25 don't think we anticipate a lot of differences of

1 opinion here but we want to work out any final
2 details that are still there.

3 So I'm happy to see this move forward and
4 really want to, again, thank Staff for all the
5 hard work, and the stakeholders for being part of
6 this process. That's really kind of the
7 lifeblood of getting it right and that's what we
8 try to do. So, certainly, everyone should be
9 listening and providing input so that we can get
10 to a finish line that works for everyone.

11 So thanks all for being here again.

12 MS. FISHMAN: All right. Thank you,
13 Commissioner. Appreciate that.

14 We'll now open it up for public comments.
15 If you would like to make a comment, please use
16 the raise-hand feature, and we'll take those
17 comments.

18 MR. BAEZ: Hi. This is Carlos Baez from
19 the Appliances Office. I'm helping to run the
20 Zoom today. So I see already there's one hand
21 raised from Erica.

22 So, Erica, I'll allow you to un-mute
23 yourself right now. And, yeah, before you speak,
24 if you could please state your name and
25 affiliation, that would be appreciated. Thank

1 you.

2 MS. THOMAS: Hi. Thank you. I'm Erica
3 Thomas and I'm from the Information Technology
4 Industry Council, that's ITI, and we represent
5 some of the world's leading information and
6 communications technology companies from around
7 the world in all corners of technology sector,
8 including hardware, software, digital services,
9 semiconductor network equipment, and internet, as
10 well as technology-enabled companies that rely on
11 ICT to transform their business, so that's who I
12 am.

13 And just wanted to take this opportunity
14 to express our appreciation for all the work
15 that's been done on this. ITI members strongly
16 believe that California Energy Efficiency
17 Standards need to keep pace with new technologies
18 and innovations to provide California consumers
19 more innovative solutions and energy efficient
20 choices. And CEC's proposed rulemaking, we
21 believe, is a step in the right direction.

22 And, accordingly, we just wanted to take
23 this opportunity again to express our support for
24 all of the key amendments in CEC's proposed
25 rulemaking in this Docket 20-AAER-03. So -- and

1 we also support the regulatory language detailed
2 in the express terms.

3 So thank you, Commissioner McAllister,
4 and thank you so much to CEC Staff for the years
5 of collaboration too. I think that benefits us
6 all on appliance energy efficiency standards.

7 That's all.

8 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great.

9 MS. FISHMAN: Thank you so much, Erica,
10 for the support.

11 Is there anybody else who would like to
12 make a comment?

13 MR. BAEZ: I don't see any other hands
14 raised at this point.

15 Also, if for some reason you can't
16 connect to a microphone, you could also type your
17 comment out into the Q&A and then we'll read it
18 into the record for you.

19 (Pause)

20 MS. FISHMAN: Okay. So, Carlos, do we
21 have anything in Q&A, anybody raising their hand?

22 DR. PASHA: I see that there is one
23 raised hand, Carlos.

24 MR. BAEZ: Okay. Yeah, nothing in the
25 Q&A, but, yeah, we have a raised hand from

1 Shahid.

2 So I'll allow you to un-mute yourself
3 right now, Shahid.

4 MR. SHEIKH: Yeah. This is Shahid Sheikh
5 from Intel Corporation. And I second everything
6 that Erica just mentioned from ITI, you know, and
7 we support, you know? And we had minor comments
8 that we listed, you know, as part of the ITI in
9 the written comments.

10 And I just had one question. You know, I
11 don't know if you have time for that, in terms of
12 the presentation that you had. You talked about
13 December 9th. Could you talk -- maybe a little
14 bit expand about what the agenda for the December
15 9th meeting would be?

16 MS. FISHMAN: On December 9th the
17 Commission is holding their business meeting and
18 we will be presenting. At this time, we are
19 proposing to present these regulations to the
20 Commission for adoption at that meeting.

21 MR. SHEIKH: So is that a closed meeting
22 or is that a public meeting as well?

23 MS. FISHMAN: Oh, that is a public
24 meeting.

25 MR. SHEIKH: Okay.

1 MS. FISHMAN: That is a public. You can
2 find all the information on CEC's website.

3 MR. SHEIKH: Okay. Thank you very much.

4 MS. FISHMAN: Okay. Anybody else would
5 like to make a comment or type a question into
6 the Q&A? Just give another minute or so before
7 we close out.

8 (Pause)

9 MS. FISHMAN: Let's see, 10:19. I'll
10 give one more minute in case anybody would like
11 to make a comment.

12 (Pause)

13 MS. FISHMAN: okay. Well, it is 10:20
14 and I am going to, again, thank everybody for
15 participating this morning. Thank you for your
16 comments. And we will close the record and close
17 this public hearing.

18 Thank you.

19 (The public hearing concluded at 10:20 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of December, 2020.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

December 2, 2020