

Proposed Performance Levels for Dimming Ballasts
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Background:

In the 2005 Title 24 standards, there is a 25% power adjustment factor (PAF) - also known as a "control credit" - for dimming electronic fluorescent ballasts. This credit was considered necessary due to the fact that dimming electronic ballasts are not as efficient as non-dimmable ones.

A major ballast company, Sylvania, has recently announced a new dimming ballast, PowerSmart, which has performance that matches that of first generation T8 non-dimming ballasts.

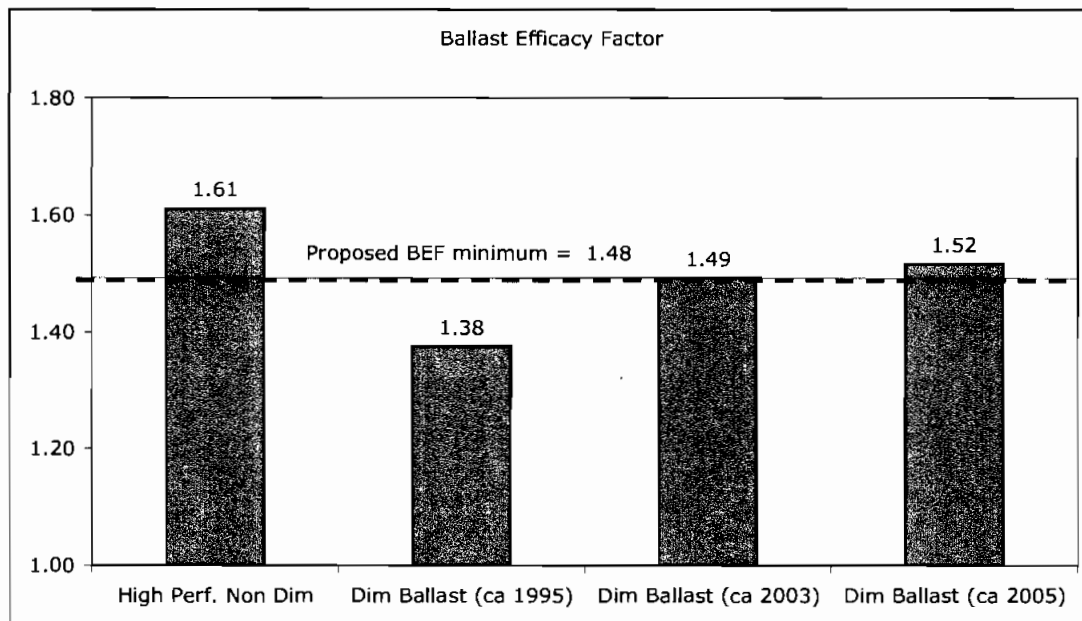
Proposal:

It is proposed that the 25% PAF remain in the Standard, but to add a minimum efficiency performance level that would be required for the dimming ballast to "qualify" for the PAF.

For 2 lamp T8 dimming systems, the following performance level would be required:

Ballast Efficacy Factor (BEF) ≥ 1.48

(Other BEFs would be defined for the 1, 3, and 4 lamp systems.)



This level would just allow the (2003) dimming ballast and definitely the new Sylvania product (BEF = 1.52). However, it would exclude the dimming ballast (1995) as too inefficient.