

From: Mediaoffice
To: roydengirling@pacbell.net
CC: Docket Optical System
Date: 9/18/2009 3:49 PM
Subject: Reply to: Complaint Form (Docket #09-AAER-1C)

DOCKET**09-AAER-1C**

DATE SEP 18 2009

RECD SEP 21 2009

Mr. Girling,

Thank you for sending in a concerns about the Calif. Energy Commission proposed regulations on TVs.

We would like to direct you to the Energy Commission staff report on our website that will explain the reasoning behind the proposed regulations. The report can be found and downloaded from:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/appliances/2009_tvregs/documents/

We urge you to read the report to help you understand why such regulations are needed. Staff has been working with the TV industry and other interested groups for more than a year on these regulations.

Almost all appliances sold in California, except for the newer flat screen TVs, have to meet strict energy efficiency standards already. The state has been requiring these standards since 1978. The standards have helped make all our appliances more energy efficient. For example, refrigerators sold today use about 1/4 the amount of electricity they did 30 years ago because of energy efficiency regulations. But we are not lacking for consumer choice. You have hundreds of models to chose from if you're buying a new "frig", with all the features you would desire. But the manufacturers were required to make their products more efficient, and they had to do so in a cost-effective manner.

California's efficiency standards have helped keep our per-person electricity use flat, with very little increase, for the last 30 years, while the rest of the country's electricity use per person has increased very dramatically. California's efficiency standards for buildings and appliances have saved consumers than \$56 billion in electricity and natural gas costs since 1978. It is estimated the standards will save an additional \$23 billion by 2013.

The old TV standards are based on the old cathode ray tube TVs. The federal government has not moved forward in updating its testing methods. So the state, which can regulate appliances sold here, is proposing that new test methods are used and that the televisions meet a certain threshold of energy use. The Energy Commission is only adding TVs to the very long list of appliances whose energy use we already regulate.

TVs use about 10 percent of the electricity in most homes, and as the number of screens and peripheral equipment (satellite boxes, cable TV, BlueRay, VCRs, etc.) in a house increases, the amount of electricity used also increases. Our staff estimates that these new regulations will save Californians money and will reduce the need to build additional power plants.

The technology exists for flat screens (LCDs, plasmas, etc.) to meet the standards we are proposing. Many models already meet the proposed state standards, which if approved won't go into effect for two years.

No one will be deprived of the model they want to purchase, and no one will be taking anyone's TV away. The manufacturers are the ones that have to meet the new standards. Already many TV makers have said that meeting these new standards will be relatively easy.

Concerns raised by small businesses that specialize in very large, home theater TV systems have been taken into consideration. So, the proposed regulations do not affect TVs that measure larger than 58-inches diagonally (1400 square inches). Those larger TVs may be considered in a future update to the regulations.

We hope that you would please read our staff report so you can better understand our reasoning about why such regulations are needed.

Thank you again for voicing your concerns. Your e-mail will be filed with the formal comments on this proceeding.

Bob Aldrich
Media & Public Communications Office
California Energy Commission

>>> <roydengirling@pacbell.net> 09/18/09 2:34 PM >>>

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Complaint or Comment About the California Energy Commission

Description of complaint or comment (people involved, dates, time, etc).

The idea to limit large screen TV's to prevent needed power generation is beyond ridiculous. The urge by meddlesome activists and those representing them on the Energy Commission is something that would happen in a dictatorship. Stay out of our lives. Leave my TV alone and any TV I wish to have.

Would you like to discuss this complaint in detail with a Commission representative?

Further Action to Be Taken

Please specify what action you would like the Energy Commission to take?
Drop the idea to regulate large screen TV's.

Give a brief summary of any action already taken in relation to this complaint.

Give the name(s) of any person in the Commission already contacted in relation to this matter.