



Australian Government
Department of Climate Change
and Energy Efficiency

25 November 2011

California Energy Commission
Docket No. 11-AAER-2
Docket Unit
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Station 4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5504

DOCKET

11-AAER-2

DATE NOV 25 2011

RECD. NOV 28 2011

**RE: APPLIANCE EFFICIENCY REGULATIONS CEC DOCKET NO. 11-AAER-2
(BATTERY CHARGERS)**

I am writing to lodge a submission with the Californian Energy Commission (CEC) which is examining options to improve the efficiency of battery charging devices. This agency is exploring similar opportunities and seeks to support the CEC proposal as potentially a way to improve the efficiency of this class of products globally or at least beyond the state borders of California.

The Australian Government is committed to reducing Australia's carbon pollution and has targets to reduce emissions by 5 or 25 per cent below 2000 levels by 2020 depending on the actions by other nations. Australia has formally pledged to these targets under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This commitment represents a constructive and responsible contribution to global action, and demonstrates Australia's commitment to playing its full and fair part in global mitigation action.

As the mechanism to achieve these reductions, the Australian Government has announced the Clean Energy Future plan, which will:

- put a price on carbon pollution from 1 July 2012 transitioning to a flexible market price in 2015;
- provide significant support for renewable energy, including research, development and deployment of new renewable energy infrastructure and technologies;
- drive improvements in energy efficiency across the economy – in homes, businesses, buildings and industries; and
- create opportunities for farmers to reduce emissions or store carbon in the landscape, preserve biodiversity and improve farm productivity.

The National Strategy on Energy Efficiency is a consistent and coordinated approach implementing cost-effective energy efficiency gains across the economy. My Department's focus is on equipment energy efficiency and, in particular, identifying products for regulation where the community derives economic and environmental benefit from that action.

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In October 2009, the prospect of regulating battery chargers was first raised as a possibility with the resident Australian supply industry. In September 2011, a stakeholder forum discussed regulatory options with the results available at:

<http://www.energyrating.gov.au/blog/resources/events-calendar/14092011/>

After a detailed briefing, stakeholders present at this forum endorsed the CEC proposals as the future direction for Australian regulation. This briefing is available at:

http://www.energyrating.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/Energy_Rating_Documents/Library/Standby_Power/Standby_Power/Session_4.1-Battery-Chargers.pdf

The next step in the Australian regulatory process will occur in 2012 with the release of a Product Profile on battery chargers which will propose to adopt the scheme proposed by the CEC.

This Department will further support the CEC proposal by making technical resources available in the future to develop an efficiency marking scheme suitable for use throughout the world (similar to the scheme developed by US and Australian experts for external power supplies).

I hope that the CEC finds value in this pledge of support for your work addressing battery charger efficiency. Indeed, should CEC proceed with its regulatory proposal, this agency could consider nominating that work as a potential case study under the US lead Super Efficient Appliance Deployment project (currently involving some 16 countries) which reports to the Clean Energy Ministerial.

Yours sincerely



Hilton Taylor
Assistant Secretary
Appliance Energy Efficiency Branch