date of publication of DOE’s final rule establishing the uniform descriptor, EPCA requires that the efficiency standards for covered water heaters to be denominated according to the uniform efficiency descriptor established in the final rule (42 U.S.C. 6295(e)(5)(D)) and that DOE develop a mathematical conversion factor for converting the measurement of efficiency for covered water heaters from the test procedures and metrics currently in effect to the new uniform energy descriptor, (42 U.S.C. 6295(e)(5)(E)(i)–(iii)). On July 11, 2014, DOE published a final rule amending the test procedure for residential and certain commercial water heaters that satisfied the AEMTCA requirements to develop a uniform efficiency descriptor to replace the existing energy factor, thermal efficiency, and standby loss metrics. 79 FR 40542. Use of the amended test procedure is required beginning on July 13, 2015, for new testing. All representations must be based on the amended test procedure as of one year after the publication of a final rule that establishes a mathematical conversion factor. On April 14, 2015, DOE published a NOPR proposing mathematical conversion factors for converting from the current efficiency metrics (i.e., energy factor for residential water heaters, and thermal efficiency and standby loss for commercial water heaters) to the uniform efficiency descriptor (i.e., uniform energy factor metric). 80 FR 20116 (April 14, 2015).

In response to the NOPR for the Conversion Factor for Test Procedures for Consumer and Certain Commercial Water Heaters, the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) requested a 60-day extension to the comment period, a public meeting, and a delay in compliance date for the test procedure. AHRI stated in its request that it needed additional time to analyze the specific conversion factors and underlying analysis, review the water heater tests conducted by DOE to assess to what extent those tests reflected the range of models covered by the test procedure, and evaluate the validity of the conclusions derived from the testing conducted by DOE as provided in the conversion factors and translated energy conservation standards. After careful consideration of this request, DOE has determined that extending the public comment period by reopening to allow additional time for interested parties to submit comments and that convening a public meeting are appropriate based on the foregoing reasons. Accordingly, DOE is granting approximately 30-day comment period extension and announcing a public meeting. In this document, DOE is reopening the comment period for the NOPR for the Conversion Factor for Test Procedures for Consumer and Certain Commercial Water Heaters to midnight of June 15, 2015 and will deem any comments received by that time to be timely submitted. Also, DOE will host a public meeting on Thursday, May 28, 2015. Additional details on the public meeting are provided in the dates and addresses sections of this document.

DOE is not extending the compliance dates, which were set by statute based on the completion of various rulemakings. The test method will have been final for a year, and manufacturers should be able to test any new basic models using that test method. Furthermore, because the energy conservation standards for residential water heaters changed earlier this year, DOE expects that very few, new basic models will be introduced in the interim between July 13, 2015, and when the conversion factor final rule is effective.

Public Participation

All participants will undergo security processing upon building entry. Any participant with a laptop computer or similar device (e.g., tablets), must undergo additional screening. Note that any foreign national who requests to participate in the public meeting is subject to advance security screening prior to the date of the public meeting, and such persons should contact Ms. Brenda Edwards as soon as possible at (202) 586–2945 to commence the necessary procedures.

Due to the REAL ID Act implemented by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), there have been recent changes regarding identification (ID) requirements for individuals wishing to enter Federal buildings from specific States and U.S. territories. As a result, driver’s licenses from the following States or territory will not be accepted for building entry, and instead, one of the alternate forms of ID listed below will be required.

DHS has determined that regular driver’s licenses (and ID cards) from the following jurisdictions are not acceptable for entry into DOE facilities: Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, Oklahoma, and Washington.

Acceptable alternate forms of Photo-ID include: U.S. Passport or Passport Card; an Enhanced Driver’s License; or Enhanced ID-Card issued by the States of Minnesota, New York or Washington (Enhanced licenses issued by these States are clearly marked Enhanced or Enhanced Driver’s License); a military ID or other Federal government-issued Photo-ID card.

In addition, you can attend the public meeting via webinar. Webinar registration information, participant instructions, and information about the capabilities available to webinar participants at: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/703656362242638210. Participants are responsible for ensuring their systems are compatible with the webinar software.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 12, 2015.

Kathleen B. Hogan,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 2015–12221 Filed 5–19–15; 8:45 am]
DATES: DOE will accept comments, data, and information regarding the notice of proposed rulemaking no later than July 10, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Instructions: All comments submitted must identify the NOPR for Energy Conservation Standards for Residential Furnaces, and provide docket number EERE–2014–BT–STD–0031 and/or regulatory information number (RIN) number 1904–AD20. Comments may be submitted using any of the following methods:


2. Email: ResFurnaces2014STD0031@ee.doe.gov. Include the docket number and/or RIN in the subject line of the message. Submit electronic comments in Word Perfect, Microsoft Word, PDF, or ASCII file format, and avoid the use of special characters or any form on encryption.


No telefacsimiles (faxes) will be accepted. For detailed instructions on submitting comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the “Public Participation” section of the docket. Submit comments in the docket. See section VII, “Public Participation,” of the March 12, 2015 NOPR for further information on how to submit comments through www.regulations.gov.

For further information on how to submit a comment or review other public comments and the docket, contact Ms. Brenda Edwards at (202) 586–2945 or by email: Brenda.Edwards@ee.doe.gov.


For information on how to submit or review public comments and the docket, contact Ms. Brenda Edwards at (202) 586–2945 or by email: Brenda.Edwards@ee.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOE published a NOPR in the Federal Register to make available and invite public comments on its analysis regarding potential energy conservation standards for certain residential furnaces. 80 FR 13120 (March 12, 2015). The document set a deadline for the submission of written comments by June 10, 2015. The American Gas Association (AGA) and the Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) each requested an extension of the public comment period, stating that additional time is necessary to review the published analysis in order to prepare and submit comments. After careful consideration of these requests, DOE has determined that extending the comment period to allow additional time for interested parties to submit comments is appropriate based on the foregoing reason. DOE believes that extending the comment period by 30 days will provide the public with sufficient time to submit comments responding to DOE’s analysis. Accordingly, DOE is extending the comment period to midnight of July 10, 2015 and will deem any comments received (or postmarked) by that date to be timely submitted.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 12, 2015.

Kathleen B. Hogan,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 2015–12218 Filed 5–19–15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

10 CFR Part 430

[Docket Number EERE–2012–BT–STD–0047]

RIN 1904–AC88


ACTION: Extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: On March 31, 2015, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) published in the Federal Register a notice of proposed rulemaking (NOPR) and technical support document (TSD) that analyze the potential economic impacts and energy savings that could result from potential energy conservation standards for residential boilers. DOE published this NOPR and analysis so stakeholders can review and provide input on the relevant outputs and the underlying assumptions and calculations. The comment period for the NOPR pertaining to residential boilers was scheduled to end June 1, 2015. After receiving requests for additional time to comment, DOE has decided to extend the comment period for the NOPR pertaining to the energy conservation standards for residential boilers until July 1, 2015.

DATES: The comment period for the notice of proposed rulemaking published March 31, 2015, at 80 FR 17222, is extended. DOE will accept comments, data, and information no later than July 1, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Instructions: All comments submitted must identify the NOPR for Energy Conservation Standards for Residential Boilers, and provide docket number EE–2012–BT–STD–0047 and/or regulatory information number (RIN) number 1904–AC88. Comments may be submitted using any of the following methods:


2. Email: ResBoilers2012STD0047@ee.doe.gov. Include the docket number.