

Feature Story

DOE Proposes \$11.7 Billion Energy Efficiency Standards for Commercial & Industrial Electric Motors

The Department of Energy published a [proposed rule](#) establishing energy efficiency standards for commercial and industrial electric motors for which DOE does not already have energy conservation standards. Pursuant to provisions of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975, DOE “proposes amending the energy conservation standards for electric motors by applying the standards currently in place to a wider scope of electric motors for which DOE does not currently regulate. In setting these standards, DOE is proposing to address a number of different groups of electric motors that have, to date, not been required to satisfy the energy conservation standards currently set out in 10 CFR part 431. In addition, with the exception of fire pump electric motors, the proposal would require all currently regulated motors to satisfy the efficiency levels prescribed” in the National Electrical Manufacturers Association’s [MG 1 standards](#). DOE estimates that these standards would save 7 quads of energy over the first 30 years of implementation, amounting to 0.23 quads in annualized energy savings. DOE estimates the rule’s net present value at between \$8.7 billion and \$23.3 billion, and puts the total cost of the rule at between \$6.1 billion and \$11.7 billion. [Comments](#) are due on February 4th, 2014.

Opinion

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Marketplace of Ideas

American Action Forum

- Inside the Administration's Fall 2013 Regulatory Agenda, *Sam Batkins*
- ObamaCare Failures Rooted in Shoddy Regulation, *Sam Batkins*
- Energy Efficiency Standards for Commercial and Industrial Electric Motors, *Dan Goldbeck*
- Week in Regulation, *Sam Batkins*

In the News

Congress & Regulatory Reform

[Vitter scolds White House for regs agenda](#), *The Hill*

Energy & Environment

[Northeastern states will press Midwest, Appalachia on clean air](#), *Washington Post*

[Obama's Pollution-Control Agenda Goes to Court Tomorrow](#), *Bloomberg*
[Supreme Court to hear arguments Tuesday over EPA pollution rules](#), *Washington Post*

[Court looks at EPA rule on cross-state pollution](#), *Washington Post*
[High Court supportive of pollution regs](#), *The Hill*
[Oil groups file brief in EPA suit](#), *The Hill*

Health & Safety

[ObamaCare regs rushed, conservative study finds](#), *The Hill*

Business

[Major companies plan for U.S. carbon emissions fee, report says](#), *Reuters*

Financial Markets & Housing

[SEC official calls for review of 'Reg NMS' equity market rules](#), *Reuters*
[U.S. urges Asia, Europe to hurry on new tough bank rules](#), *Reuters*
[SEC official warns of investor over-reliance on proxy advisory firms](#), *Reuters*

[U.S. swaps regulator says more time needed on cross-border rules](#), *Reuters*
[Volcker-Rule Critic Raskin Seen as a Voice for Consumers](#), *Bloomberg*
[Regulators Seek Pro-Business Recipe for Asset-Backed Bond Market](#), *Bloomberg*

[Lew Says Volcker Rule to Prevent Repeat of London Whale Bets](#), *Bloomberg*

[Wall Street Trade Groups Sue U.S. CFTC Over Dodd-Frank Rules](#), *Bloomberg*



Center for Competitive Politics

▪ Public Interest Comment on the IRS' Proposed Guidance for Tax-Exempt Social Welfare Organizations on Candidate-Related Political Activities, *Bradley Smith & Allen Dickerson*

Competitive Enterprise Institute

▪ CEI's Battered Business Bureau: The Week in Regulation, *Ryan Young*

Federal Regulations Advisor

▪ Monday Morning Regulatory Review – 12/9/13: Deferring Obamacare; International Swaps Derivatives; Economically Significant Right Whales & Social Cost of Carbon Comments, *Leland Beck*

Free State Foundation

▪ Will High Retransmission Consent Fees Hamper a Successful Incentive Auction?, *Randolph May & Gregory Vogt*

The George Washington University Regulatory Studies Center

▪ Constructive Critique of OSHA's Crystalline Silica Proposal, *Susan E. Dudley*
▪ Public Interest Comment on The Commodity Futures Trading Commission's Concept Release: Risk Controls and System Safeguards for Automated Trading, *Brian F. Mannix*

Heritage Foundation

▪ EPA Power Plant Regulations: A Backdoor Energy Tax, *Nicolas Loris, Kevin Dayaratna & David W. Kreutzer*

Penn Program on Regulation

▪ Moving Toward The Evaluation State, *Cary Coglianese*

[SEC Considers More Oversight Over Proxy Advisers](#), *Bloomberg*
[SEC to Consider Volcker Rule on December 10 Using Paper Ballot](#), *Bloomberg*

[SEC to consider Volcker Rule behind closed doors](#), *The Hill*

[Consumer bureau defends 'back to basics' rules](#), *The Hill*

[Volcker Rule to prohibit 'portfolio hedging'](#), *The Hill*

[Wall Street groups sue CFTC on foreign derivatives crackdown](#), *The Hill*

[SEC Commissioner Says Regulators Not Given Time To Review Volcker](#), *Wall Street Journal*

[The Volcker rule is nearly finished. Here's how we'll know if it's any good.](#), *Washington Post*

[SIGTARP proves that some bankers aren't too big to jail](#), *Washington Post*

[Lew calls for tighter global bank oversight](#), *Washington Post*

[Volcker Rule Eases Market-Making While Hedges Face Scrutiny](#), *Bloomberg*

[Which Banks Have Most to Lose From Volcker Rule?](#), *Bloomberg TV*

[Volcker Rule Said to Have Narrow Hedge Exemption After Whale](#), *Bloomberg*

[Wall Street Said to Win Softer Volcker Rule CEO Certification](#), *Bloomberg*

[Glass-Steagall Fans Plan New Assault If Volcker Rule Deemed Weak](#), *Bloomberg*

[Volcker Rule to Force Banks to Comply With Five Regimes](#), *Bloomberg*

[US ban on high-risk bank trades set for approval](#), *Washington Post*

[Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley shares rise as Volcker Rule is enacted](#), *Washington Post*

[US ban on high-risk bank trades approved](#), *Washington Post*

[READ: The Volcker Rule draft regulations and fact sheet](#), *Washington Post*

[Regulators adopt final Volcker rule limits on bank trading](#), *Washington Post*

[Senate OKs Obama pick Watt for housing regulator](#), *Washington Post*

[How Volcker Rule would limit banks' risky bets](#), *Washington Post*

Rulemaking

Department of the Interior

FWS Rule Allows Renewable Energy Producers to Apply for 30-year Permits to Kill Endangered Bald Eagles

The Fish and Wildlife Service published a [final rule](#) allowing renewable energy producers to apply for 30-year incidental take permits for endangered golden eagles and bald eagles, 6 times as long as is allowable under current 5-year incidental take permits. These 30-year permits are only available to wind and solar producers; wind turbines particularly cause a significant number of incidental golden and bald eagle deaths due to spinning turbine blades. "The permits must incorporate conditions specifying additional measures that may be necessary to ensure the preservation of eagles, should monitoring data indicate the need for the measures. This change will facilitate the responsible development of renewable energy and other projects designed to operate for decades, while continuing to protect eagles consistent with our statutory mandates. For a permit valid for 5 years or more, we will assess an application processing fee sufficient to offset the estimated costs associated with working with the applicants to develop site plans and conservation measures, and prepare applications, and for us to review applications. We also will collect an administration fee when we issue a permit and at 5-year intervals."



Department of Energy

DOE Initiates Rulemaking to Amend Energy Conservation Standards for Lamps

The Department of Energy published a [proposed rule](#) initiating a rulemaking and data collection process to consider new and amended energy conservation standards for lamps pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975, as amended by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Currently, there are no energy conservation standards for what DOE terms “general service lamps,” or GSLs. GSLs [include](#) “general service incandescent lamps (GSILs), compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), general service light-emitting diode (LED) lamps, organic light-emitting diode (OLED) lamps, and any other lamps that are used to satisfy lighting applications traditionally served by GSILs. GSLs are used in general lighting applications and account for the majority of installed lighting in the residential sector.” In its proposed rulemaking DOE also announced the release of a [Framework Document](#) that “details the analytical approach and preliminary scope of coverage for the rulemaking, and identifies several issues on which DOE is particularly interested in receiving comments.” [Comments](#) on the framework document are due on January 23rd, 2014.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD Finalizes Rule Providing Definitive Underwriting Standards for Manual Mortgage Loan Transactions

The Department of Housing and Urban Development published a [final rule](#) providing definitive underwriting standards for manually-underwritten mortgage loan transactions. “The effect of the [final rule] is to reduce underwriting losses by strengthening manual underwriting guidelines and thereby increase revenue per loan for FHA as a result of more rigorous underwriting practices that reduce the number of claims. FHA can control costs through risk management practices. The lower costs are a gain to FHA. The target of the document is low net-revenue loans, which have higher claim rates and higher loss rates. HUD expects the net revenue per loan to increase by \$2,300 (discounted at 3 percent) primarily because the expected claim amount falls. At a 7 percent discount rate, the increase in net revenue per loan is \$1,900. Any gain to the FHA is a transfer. Whether there are net transfers to FHA depends on the impact of the rule on volume and thus the proportion of the current borrowers excluded from receiving a loan. When 10 percent of applicants are excluded, the gain (transfer) to FHA ranges from \$35 to \$42 million. Under certain circumstances, reducing the riskiest of loans will allow FHA to return additional revenues to the U.S. Treasury.” [Comments](#) are due on February 10th, 2014.

Consumer Product Safety Commission

CPSC Direct Final Rule Sets Product Safety Standards for Infant Bath Seats, Cribs, and Toddler Beds

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is requesting comment on a [direct final rule](#) in which consumer product safety standards for numerous durable infant or toddler products, including infant bath seats, toddler beds, and full-size baby cribs have been revised and published. This direct final rule is being issued pursuant to section 104(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA), also known as the Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification Act. The purpose of these revised standards is to incorporate by reference more recent versions of the applicable American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards. The rule is effective on March 24, 2014, unless the Commission receives significant adverse [comment](#) by January 8, 2014.

Agencies

Export-Import Bank

Ex-Im Bank Receives Application for \$100+ Million to Fund Boeing Exports to the United Arab Emirates

The Export-Import Bank published a [notice](#) announcing the receipt of an application for a long-term loan or financial guarantee in excess of \$100 million to fund the export of commercial Boeing 777 aircraft to the United Arab Emirates. The imports would be used for “long-haul passenger air service between the United Arab Emirates and destinations throughout the world.” [Comments](#) are due on January 6th, 2014.

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