Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Ceiling Fan Light Kits


ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is publishing this final rule to amend the compliance date for energy conservation standards for ceiling fan light kits (CFLKs). The energy conservation standards for CFLKs were issued by DOE on January 6, 2016, and compliance with the standards was required on January 7, 2019. The “Ceiling Fan Energy Conservation Harmonization Act,” subsequently deemed the compliance date for DOE’s CFLKs standards to be January 21, 2020, and required DOE to amend its regulation to reflect this requirement. DOE is also updating a cross-reference in the regulations that was mistakenly not updated when the ceiling fan energy conservation standards were codified.

DATES: This rule is effective [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]. The compliance date for the standards established for CFLKs is January 21, 2020.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title III, Part B of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (EPCA), Public Law 94-163 (42 U.S.C. 6291-6309, as codified), established the Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products Other Than Automobiles. These products include CFLKs, the subject of this document. Section 325(ff)(5) of EPCA authorizes DOE to consider amended standards for CFLKs. On January 6, 2016 DOE promulgated an energy conservation standard for CFLKs with a compliance date of 3 years after the date of issuance, or January 7, 2019. Section 325(ff)(5) required that the compliance date of the standards be at least 2 years after the date of issuance, and the 3 year lead time DOE specified in the final standards rule is consistent with other provisions of EPCA that require a 3-year lead time for some products. Section 325(ff)(6) of EPCA also authorizes DOE to consider amended standards for ceiling fans, as a separate product under the statute. DOE promulgated an energy conservation standard for ceiling fans on January 19, 2017. The compliance date for the ceiling fan standards rule is January 21, 2020. Section 325(ff)(6) did not have a similar provision regarding the compliance date for ceiling fan standards; however, as with the CFLK rule, the 3 year lead time DOE specified in the final standards rule is consistent with other provisions of EPCA that require a 3-year lead time for some products.

After DOE’s promulgation of final rules establishing energy conservation standards for CFLKs and Ceiling Fans, Congress enacted S. 2030, the “Ceiling Fan Energy Conservation Harmonization Act” (“the Act”), which was signed into law as Pub. L. 115-161 on April 3, 2018.
The Act amended the compliance date for the CFLK standards to establish a single compliance date for the energy conservation standards for both CFLKs and ceiling fans. The Act also required that DOE, not later than 60 days after the date of enactment, make any technical and conforming changes to any regulation, guidance document, or procedure necessary to implement the changed compliance date. This action codifies Congress’s revision of the compliance date for CFLKs in DOE’s regulations at 10 CFR 430.32(s).

DOE is also updating a cross reference in 10 CFR 430.32(s)(5), changing the reference to paragraph (s)(2) or (3) to paragraph (s)(3) or (4). Paragraph (s)(5) provides requirements for ceiling fan light kits other than those specified in the cross-referenced paragraphs, which were not updated when the new ceiling fan standards were codified as paragraph (s)(2).

In light of the applicable statutory requirement enacted by Congress to deem the compliance date for CFLK standards to be January 21, 2020, the absence of any benefit in providing comment given that the rule incorporates the specific requirement established by Pub. L. 115-161, DOE finds that there is good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) to not provide prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on the actions outlined in this document to implement Pub. L. 115-161. DOE similarly finds good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) to not provide prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on the update to the erroneous cross-reference. For these reasons, providing prior notice and an opportunity for public comment would, in this instance, be unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. For the same reason, DOE finds good cause pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to waive the 30-day delay in effective date for this rule.

**Procedural Requirements**
A. Review Under Executive Order 12866, ‘‘Regulatory Planning and Review’’

This final rule is not a ‘‘significant regulatory action’’ under any of the criteria set out in section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, ‘‘Regulatory Planning and Review.’’ 58 FR 51735 (October 4, 1993). Accordingly, this action was not subject to review by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

B. Review Under Executive Order 13771

On January 30, 2017, the President issued Executive Order 13771, ‘‘Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs.’’ That Order stated the policy of the executive branch is to be prudent and financially responsible in the expenditure of funds, from both public and private sources. The Order stated it is essential to manage the costs associated with the governmental imposition of private expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations. This final rule is expected to be an E.O. 13771 deregulatory action.

Additionally, on February 24, 2017, the President issued Executive Order 13777, ‘‘Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda.’’ The Order required the head of each agency designate an agency official as its Regulatory Reform Officer (RRO). Each RRO oversees the implementation of regulatory reform initiatives and policies to ensure that agencies effectively carry out regulatory reforms, consistent with applicable law. Further, E.O. 13777 requires the establishment of a regulatory task force at each agency. The regulatory task force is required to make recommendations to the agency head regarding the repeal, replacement, or modification of existing regulations, consistent with applicable law. At a minimum, each regulatory reform task force must attempt to identify regulations that:

(i) Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
(ii) Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;

(iii) Impose costs that exceed benefits;

(iv) Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform initiatives and policies;

(v) Are inconsistent with the requirements of Information Quality Act, or the guidance issued pursuant to that Act, in particular those regulations that rely in whole or in part on data, information, or methods that are not publicly available or that are insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility; or

(vi) Derive from or implement Executive Orders or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

DOE concludes that this final rule is consistent with the directives set forth in these executive orders. Specifically, this final rule is a deregulatory action to implement Pub. L. 115-161, which amended the compliance date for the CFLK standards to establish a single compliance date for the energy conservation standards for both CFLKs and ceiling fans. This action is estimated to result in cost savings. Assuming a 7 percent discount rate, this final rule would yield annualized cost savings of approximately $0.29 million (2016$).

C. Review Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) requires preparation of an initial regulatory flexibility analysis for any rule that by law must be proposed for public comment, unless the agency certifies that the rule, if promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. As required by Executive Order 13272, Proper Consideration of Small Entities in Agency Rulemaking, 67 FR 53461 (August 16, 2002), DOE
published procedures and policies on February 19, 2003, to ensure that the potential impacts of its rules on small entities are properly considered during the rulemaking process. 68 FR 7990. The Department has made its procedures and policies available on the Office of General Counsel’s Web site: http://www.gc.doe.gov. DOE is revising the Code of Federal Regulations to incorporate, without change, a revised compliance date prescribed by Public Law No. 115–161. Because this is a technical amendment for which a general notice of proposed rulemaking is not required, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act do not apply to this rulemaking.

D. Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This rulemaking imposes no new information or recordkeeping requirements. Accordingly, Office of Management and Budget clearance is not required under the Paperwork Reduction Act. (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.)

E. Review Under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

DOE has determined that this rule is covered under the Categorical Exclusion found in DOE’s National Environmental Policy Act regulations at paragraph A.6 of appendix A to subpart D, 10 CFR part 1021, which applies to rulemakings that are strictly procedural. Accordingly, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

F. Review Under Executive Order 13132, “Federalism”

Executive Order 13132, “Federalism.” 64 FR 43255 (Aug. 10, 1999) imposes certain requirements on Federal agencies formulating and implementing policies or regulations that preempt State law or that have Federalism implications. The Executive Order requires agencies to examine the constitutional and statutory authority supporting any action that would limit the
policymaking discretion of the States and to carefully assess the necessity for such actions. The Executive Order also requires agencies to have an accountable process to ensure meaningful and timely input by State and local officials in the development of regulatory policies that have Federalism implications. On March 14, 2000, DOE published a statement of policy describing the intergovernmental consultation process it will follow in the development of such regulations. 65 FR 13735. EPCA governs and prescribes Federal preemption of State regulations as to energy conservation for the products that are the subject of this final rule. States can petition DOE for exemption from such preemption to the extent, and based on criteria, set forth in EPCA. (42 U.S.C. 6297) No further action is required by Executive Order 13132.

G. Review Under Executive Order 12988, ‘‘Civil Justice Reform’’

With respect to the review of existing regulations and the promulgation of new regulations, section 3(a) of Executive Order 12988, ‘‘Civil Justice Reform,’’ 61 FR 4729 (February 7, 1996), imposes on Federal agencies the general duty to adhere to the following requirements: (1) Eliminate drafting errors and ambiguity; (2) write regulations to minimize litigation; and (3) provide a clear legal standard for affected conduct rather than a general standard and promote simplification and burden reduction. Section 3(b) of Executive Order 12988 specifically requires that Executive agencies make every reasonable effort to ensure that the regulation: (1) Clearly specifies the preemptive effect, if any; (2) clearly specifies any effect on existing Federal law or regulation; (3) provides a clear legal standard for affected conduct while promoting simplification and burden reduction; (4) specifies the retroactive effect, if any; (5) adequately defines key terms; and (6) addresses other important issues affecting clarity and general draftsmanship under any guidelines issued by the Attorney General. Section 3(c) of
Executive Order 12988 requires Executive agencies to review regulations in light of applicable standards in section 3(a) and section 3(b) to determine whether they are met or it is unreasonable to meet one or more of them. DOE has completed the required review and determined that, to the extent permitted by law, this final rule meets the relevant standards of Executive Order 12988.

H. Review Under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) (Pub. L. 104–4) requires each Federal agency to assess the effects of Federal regulatory actions on State, local, and Tribal governments and the private sector. For a proposed regulatory action likely to result in a rule that may cause the expenditure by State, local, and Tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of $100 million or more in any one year (adjusted annually for inflation), section 202 of UMRA requires a Federal agency to publish a written statement that estimates the resulting costs, benefits, and other effects on the national economy. (2 U.S.C. 1532(a),(b)) The UMRA also requires a Federal agency to develop an effective process to permit timely input by elected officers of State, local, and Tribal governments on a proposed “significant intergovernmental mandate,” and requires an agency plan for giving notice and opportunity for timely input to potentially affected small governments before establishing any requirements that might significantly or uniquely affect small governments. On March 18, 1997, DOE published a statement of policy on its process for intergovernmental consultation under UMRA (62 FR 12820) (also available at http://www.gc.doe.gov). This final rule contains neither an intergovernmental mandate nor a mandate that may result in the expenditure of $100 million or more in any year, so these requirements under the UMRA do not apply.

I. Review Under the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 1999
Section 654 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 1999 (Pub. L. 105–277) requires Federal agencies to issue a Family Policymaking Assessment for any rule that may affect family well-being. This final rule would not have any impact on the autonomy or integrity of the family as an institution. Accordingly, DOE has concluded that it is not necessary to prepare a Family Policymaking Assessment.

J. Review Under Executive Order 12630, ‘‘Governmental Actions and Interference With Constitutionally Protected Property Rights’’

The Department has determined, under Executive Order 12630, ‘‘Governmental Actions and Interference With Constitutionally Protected Property Rights,’’ 53 FR 8859 (March 18, 1988), that this rule would not result in any takings which might require compensation under the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution.


Section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2001 (44 U.S.C. 3516, note) disseminations of information to the public under guidelines established by each agency pursuant to general guidelines issued by OMB. OMB’s guidelines were published at 67 FR 8452 (February 22, 2002), and DOE’s guidelines were published at 67 FR 62446 (October 7, 2002). DOE has reviewed this rulemaking under the OMB and DOE guidelines and has concluded that it is consistent with applicable policies in those guidelines.

L. Review Under Executive Order 13211, ‘‘Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use’’

Executive Order 13211, ‘‘Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use,’’ 66 FR 28355 (May 22, 2001), requires Federal agencies
to prepare and submit to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), Office of Management and Budget, a Statement of Energy Effects for any proposed significant energy action. A “significant energy action” is defined as any action by an agency that promulgated or is expected to lead to promulgation of a final rule, and that: (1) is a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866, or any successor order; and (2) is likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy, or (3) is designated by the Administrator of OIRA as a significant energy action. For any proposed significant energy action, the agency must give a detailed statement of any adverse effects on energy supply, distribution, or use should the proposal be implemented, and of reasonable alternatives to the action and their expected benefits on energy supply, distribution, and use. This final rule would not have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy and, therefore, is not a significant energy action. Accordingly, DOE has not prepared a Statement of Energy Effects.

M. Congressional Notification

As required by 5 U.S.C. 801, DOE will report to Congress on the promulgation of this rule prior to its effective date. The report will state that it has been determined that the rule is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Approval of the Office of the Secretary

The Secretary of Energy has approved publication of this final rule.
List of Subjects in 10 CFR Part 430

Administrative practice and procedure, Confidential business information, Energy conservation, Household appliances, Small businesses.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 9, 2018.

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Daniel R. Simmons,
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary,
For the reasons set forth in the preamble, DOE hereby amends chapter II, subchapter D, of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations as set forth below:

PART 430—ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS

1. The authority citation for part 430 continues to read as follows:


§430.32 [Amended]

2. Section 430.32 is amended by:

a. In paragraphs (s)(3), (4), (5), and (6), removing the language “January 7, 2019” each place it appears and adding in its place “January 21, 2020”.

b. In paragraph (s)(5), removing the language “paragraphs (s)(2) or (3)” and adding in its place “paragraph (s)(3) or (4)”.

[FR Doc. 2018-10440 Filed: 5/15/2018 8:45 am; Publication Date: 5/16/2018]