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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

10 CFR Part 430

[Docket No. EE-RM-90-201]

RIN 1904-AA76

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Notice of Public Workshop on Residential Water Heater Energy Efficiency Standards Rulemaking

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of public workshop.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (the Department or DOE) today gives notice that it will convene a public workshop to discuss the proposed analytical framework for evaluating possible revisions to the water heater energy efficiency standards. The objective of the workshop will be to discuss the methodology and approaches to be utilized throughout the water heater standards rulemaking process.

DATES: The public workshop will be held on Tuesday, June 24, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at the U.S. Department of Energy, Room 1E-245, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585.

Copies of the transcript of the public workshop, public comments received, and this notice may be read at the DOE Freedom of Information Reading Room, U.S. DOE, Forrestal Building, Room 1E-190, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-6020, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Bryan Berringer, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Forrestal

Building, Mail Station EE-43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 586-0371.

Ms. Sandy Beall, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, Mail Station EE-43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 586-7574.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the preamble to the Department's final rule on procedures for consideration of new or revised energy conservation standards for consumer products published on July 15, 1996, DOE committed to revise the analysis of energy efficiency standards for water heaters and to issue a revised notice of proposed rulemaking. 61 FR 36973 (July 15, 1996). The water heater standards rulemaking has been designated a high priority by DOE as addressed in the Department's Regulatory Plan and the Unified Agenda. 61 FR 62043 and 62460 (November 29, 1996).

In continuing the work on possible revisions to energy efficiency standards on water heaters, the Department is convening a workshop to present and receive public comments on the proposed analytical approach for evaluating the water heaters standards. At this workshop the following will be discussed:

The Rulemaking Schedule
The Analytical Framework (including the major components of the methodology and the relationships among the components)
Issues for Analysis
Analytical Methods and Tools (including the selection of engineering and economic analytical tools to be used on issues such as engineering analysis, national benefits forecast, manufacturer impact, and utility impacts)
Data Requirements and Data Collection Methods
Industry Characterization (including input on the present and past industry structure and market characteristics)
Identification of Experts and Other Interested Parties (who can provide expert review of the results of the engineering and economic analyses)
Identification of Qualifications for Contractors

The workshop will be held on Tuesday, June 24, 1997, at the U.S.

Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121 in Room 1E-245 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Further background on the approach to be followed in evaluating these standards is found in Appendix A of Subpart C of 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 430, see 61 FR 36973 (July 15, 1996) which outlines the planning and prioritization process, data collection and analysis, and decision making criteria.

The Department also welcomes written comments or recommendations on the process and the tools to be used for the water heater rulemaking. Written comments or recommendations should be submitted to Sandy Beall at the above listed address.

Copies of this notice, the workshop transcript, and any written comments will be available in the DOE Freedom of Information Reading Room.

Please notify Sandy Beall or Bryan Berringer at the above listed address if you intend to attend the workshop, if you wish to receive material prepared for the workshop, or if you wish to be added to the DOE mailing list for receipt of future notices and information concerning water heater matters relating to energy efficiency.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 3, 1997.

Joseph J. Romm,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 97-15105 Filed 6-9-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

10 CFR Part 451

[Docket No. EE-NOI-97-301]

Renewable Energy Production Incentive Program

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Inquiry and public meeting and request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) is publishing this Notice of Inquiry (NOI) to obtain information on possible changes to the Renewable Energy Production Incentive (REPI) program that will improve its