

Proposed Rules

Federal Register

Vol. 63, No. 39

Friday, February 27, 1998

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 AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 205

[TM-98-00-4]

Information Meeting for National Organic Program Proposed Rule; Correction

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meetings; correction.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service published a document in the **Federal Register** of February 2, 1998, (63 FR 6285), concerning four public information meetings to discuss the proposed rule for the National Organic Program. The document contained an incorrect location for the March 5 session. The March 5 session will be held at the location listed below.

ADDRESSES: *March 5, 1998:* Rutgers University, Livingston Student Center, 84 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854, (732) 445-3561.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Eileen S. Stommes, Deputy Administrator, USDA-AMS-TM-NOP, Room 4007-So., Ag Stop 0275, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456. Phone (202) 690-1300.

The meeting will be held during the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dated: February 25, 1998.

Eileen S. Stommes,

Deputy Administrator, Transportation and Marketing.

[FR Doc. 98-5249 Filed 2-25-98; 2:18 pm]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

10 CFR Part 430

[Docket Numbers EE-RM-93-201 and EE-RM-S-97-700]

RIN 1904-AA84

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Cooking Products (Kitchen Ranges and Ovens) Energy Conservation Standards

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

ACTION: Notice of limited reopening of the record and opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy reopens the record of its rulemaking to revise energy conservation standards for cooking products under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act for the following classes: Gas cooktops, gas ovens, and electric non-self-cleaning ovens. This notice provides an opportunity for public comment regarding supplemental analyses on the potential impact of alternative efficiency levels, written comments on these analyses, new factual information, and the principal policy options now under consideration.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the 1996 Draft Report on the Potential Impact of Alternative Energy Efficiency Levels for Residential Cooking Products (Draft Report), supplemental analysis, and other post comment period correspondence is available for public inspection and copying at the Freedom of Information Reading Room, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 1E-190, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-7574, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Written comments are welcome. Please submit 10 copies (no faxes) to: Kathi Epping, U. S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, "Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Cooking Products, Docket No. EE-RM-S-97-700", EE-43, 1000

Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathi Epping, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, EE-43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 586-7425, or Eugene Margolis, Esq., U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel, GC-72, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-9507.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA), 42 U.S.C. 6295, the Department of Energy (DOE) proposed to revise the energy conservation standards applicable to cooking products, as well as a variety of other consumer products. 59 FR 10464 (March 4, 1994). Cooking products include conventional ranges, cooktops, and ovens and microwave ovens. Section 325(o)(2) requires that any amended standard be designed to achieve the maximum improvement in energy efficiency that is technologically feasible and economically justified. 42 U.S.C. 6295(o)(2). DOE proposed performance standards for all conventional ovens and cooktops and microwave ovens.

DOE held public hearings and received 59 comments on its proposed revisions to the cooking products energy conservation standards. After reviewing the comments, DOE concluded that a number of significant issues had been raised that required additional analysis. DOE also decided to separate the rulemaking on cooking products from the rulemakings for the other consumer products covered by the notice of proposed rulemaking.

The Department, in response to comments on the proposed rule, prepared a Draft Report containing DOE's revised analysis examining five alternative efficiency levels. The Draft Report indicated that standards based on the described venting and insulating improvements to non-self-cleaning conventional electric ovens and eliminating standing pilot lights for non-self-cleaning conventional gas ovens and conventional gas cooktops could be determined to be technologically feasible and economically justified and to save significant energy. The analysis did not support any new or more stringent