DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY


Appliance Standards and Rulemaking Federal Advisory Committee: Notice of Public Webinar


ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (“DOE”) announces a meeting via webinar of the Appliance Standards and Rulemaking Federal Advisory Committee (ASRAC). The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that agencies publish notice of an advisory committee meeting in the Federal Register.

DATES: DOE will hold a webinar on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Webinar registration information, participant instructions, and information about the capabilities available to webinar participants will be published on DOE’s website: https://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/appliance-standards-and-rulemaking-federal-advisory-committee. See the Public Participation section of this notice for additional information on attending this webinar.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The primary focus of this meeting will be the discussion and prioritization of topic areas on which ASRAC can assist the Appliance and Equipment Standards Program. DOE plans to hold this webinar to gather advice and recommendations on the development of standards and test procedures for consumer products and commercial and industrial equipment. (The final agenda will be available for public viewing at https://www.regulations.gov/DOCKETDetail?D=EERE-2013-BT-NOC-0005.)

Public Participation

Attendance at Public Meeting

The time and date of the webinar are listed in the DATES section at the beginning of this document. Webinar registration information, participant instructions, and information about the capabilities available to webinar participants will be published on DOE’s website: If you plan to attend the public meeting, please notify the ASRAC staff at asrac@ee.doe.gov.

Please note that foreign nationals participating in the public meeting are subject to advance security screening procedures which require advance notice prior to attendance at the public meeting. If a foreign national wishes to participate in the public meeting, please inform DOE as soon as possible by contacting Ms. Regina Washington at (202) 586–1214 or by email: Regina.Washington@ee.doe.gov so that the necessary procedures can be completed.

Participants are responsible for ensuring their systems are compatible with the webinar software.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on August 10, 2020, by Alexander N. Fitzsimmons, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the Federal Register.

Signed in Washington, DC, on August 11, 2020.

Treena V. Garrett,
Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is forecasting the representative average unit costs of five residential energy sources for the year 2020 pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Act). The five sources are electricity, natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, propane, and kerosene.

DATES: The representative average unit costs of energy contained in this notice will become effective September 14, 2020 and will remain in effect until further notice.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 323 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act requires that DOE prescribe test procedures for the measurement of the estimated annual operating costs or other measures of energy consumption for certain consumer products specified in the Act. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)) These test procedures are found in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 430, subpart B. Section 323(b)(3) of the Act requires that the estimated annual operating costs of a covered product be calculated from measurements of energy use in a representative average use cycle or period of use and from representative average unit costs of the energy needed to operate such product during such cycle. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)) The section further requires that DOE provide information to manufacturers regarding the representative average unit costs of energy. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(4)) This cost information should be used by manufacturers to meet their obligations under section 323(c) of the Act. Most notably, these costs are used to comply with Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
requirements for labeling. Manufacturers are required to use the revised DOE representative average unit costs when the FTC publishes new ranges of comparability for specific covered products, 16 CFR part 305. Interested parties can also find information covering the FTC labeling requirements at http://www.ftc.gov/appliances.


On September 14, 2020, the cost figures published in this notice will become effective and supersede those cost figures published on March 8, 2019. The cost figures set forth in this notice will be effective until further notice.

DOE’s Energy Information Administration (EIA) has developed the 2020 representative average unit after-tax residential costs found in this notice. These costs for electricity, natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, and propane are based on simulations used to produce the July 2020, EIA Short-Term Energy Outlook (EIA releases the Outlook monthly). The representative average unit after-tax cost for kerosene is derived from its price relative to that of heating oil, based on the 2010 to 2013 averages of the U.S. refiner price to end users, which include all the major energy-consuming sectors in the U.S. for these fuels. The source for these price data is the June 2020, Monthly Energy Review DOE/EIA-0035(2020/6). The representative average unit after-tax cost for propane is derived from its price relative to that of heating oil, based on the 2020 averages of the U.S. residential sector prices found in the Annual Energy Outlook 2020, AEO2020 (January 29, 2020). The Short-Term Energy Outlook, the Monthly Energy Review, and the Annual Energy Outlook are available on the EIA website at http://www.eia.doe.gov. For more information on the data sources used in this Notice, contact the National Energy Information Center, Forrestal Building, E1–30, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586–8800, email: infoctr@eia.doe.gov.

The 2020 representative average unit costs under section 323(b)(4) of the Act are set forth in Table 1, and will become effective September 14, 2020. They will remain in effect until further notice.

**Signing Authority**

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on August 10, 2020, by Daniel R Simmons, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the Federal Register.

Signed in Washington, DC, on August 11, 2020.

Treena V. Garrett, Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

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**Table 1—Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy for Five Residential Energy Sources (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of energy</th>
<th>Per million Btu</th>
<th>In commonly used terms</th>
<th>As required by test procedure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>$38.28</td>
<td>13.1c/kWh^2^3</td>
<td>$0.131/kWh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas</td>
<td>10.13</td>
<td>$1.013/therm^4^ or $0.1052/MCF^5^6</td>
<td>$0.00001013/Btu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 Heating Oil</td>
<td>17.97</td>
<td>$2.47/gallon^7</td>
<td>$0.00001797/Btu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propane</td>
<td>17.81</td>
<td>$1.63/gallon^8</td>
<td>$0.00001781/Btu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerosene</td>
<td>21.28</td>
<td>$2.87/gallon^9</td>
<td>$0.00002128/Btu.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

1. Btu stands for British thermal units.
2. kWh stands for kilowatt hour.
3. 1 kWh = 3,412 Btu.
4. 1 therm = 100,000 Btu.
5. MCF stands for 1,000 cubic feet.
7. For the purposes of this table, one cubic foot of natural gas has an energy equivalence of 1,038 Btu.
8. For the purposes of this table, one gallon of liquid propane has an energy equivalence of 91,333 Btu.
9. For the purposes of this table, one gallon of kerosene has an energy equivalence of 135,000 Btu.