
MEMORANDUM

TO: MICHELLE CHAROCHAK, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

FROM: STEVEN CHYBOWSKI, OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES

SUBJECT: APPLIANCE STANDARDS PUBLIC COMMENTS

DATE: JULY 19, 2022

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the public comments submitted to the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER) in response to the proposed rules and regulations for the Appliance and Equipment Energy and Water Efficiency Standards Act of 2021.

Overview of Comments Received

OER received one set of written public comments from the Home Ventilating Institute (HVI) and one public comment during the in-person hearing from the Green Energy Consumers Alliance regarding the proposed rules and regulations for the Appliance and Equipment Energy and Water Efficiency Standards Act of 2021. OER has reviewed and considered all comments and suggestions proposed by HVI and appreciates the comment of support for the new regulations from the Green Energy Consumers Alliance.

Responses to Comments

OER will make the suggested change from HVI regarding Section 4.5 of the proposed regulations regarding testing. This change will update the regulation language to reference the entire statute, instead of a single subsection so that manufacturers can find all relevant information regarding testing.

Comments submitted relating to the certification and labeling of appliances were reviewed, but the suggested changes will not be made at this time. The certification processes are specified through an additional guidance document, and OER retains the ability to update the certification guidance if changes are deemed to be necessary. OER will coordinate with neighboring states regarding certification and labeling requirements.

Additional comments and suggestions were submitted regarding liability and enforcement. Matters of liability and enforcement will be based on the language in the statute and each scenario will be treated on a case-by-case basis. “Violations,” as used in R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-27.1-7(f), would be determined by the Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office on a case-by-case basis.

Conclusion

We thank all interested parties for their public comments and suggestions regarding the rules and regulations for the Appliance and Equipment Energy and Water Efficiency Standards Act of 2021.