

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
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www.energy.ca.gov



September 16, 2016

Dear Compliance Managers:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of recent changes by the Department of Energy (DOE) to the Uniform Test Method for Measuring the Energy Consumption of Battery Chargers, and to inform you of how these federal changes affect your ability to sell or offer these products for sale in California. A copy of the changes is available at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/05/20/2016-11486/energy-conservation-program-test-procedure-for-battery-chargers#h-42>.

On June 20, 2016, the amended federal test method for all small and large battery charger system models that are consumer products, except backup battery and uninterruptible power supply models, went into effect. [See 10 C.F.R. section 430.23(aa) – Appendix Y to Subpart B of part 430.]

While the compliance date for federal efficiency standards for small and large battery charger system models that are consumer products does not take effect until June 13, 2018, the test procedure's June 20, 2016 effective date affects all small and large battery charger systems sold or offered for sale in California that are manufactured after that date. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6297(a), the federal statute regarding preemption on this issue, all affected battery charger systems manufactured after June 20, 2016 must meet the criteria set forth in the DOE's amended test procedure.

On November 16, 2016, any disclosure of data for small and large battery charger system models that are consumer products, except backup battery and uninterruptible power supply models, must reflect data obtained from the amended federal test procedure. Based on 42 U.S.C. 6297(a), this means any disclosure of information, including certification to the Energy Commission's Appliance Efficiency Database (MAEDBS), related to products manufactured after June 20, 2016, and sold or offered for sale in California after November 16, 2016, must reflect data obtained from the amended federal test procedure.

If this change in federal regulations will cause hardship, 42 U.S.C. 6293(c)(3) states:

On the petition of any manufacturer, distributor, retailer, or private labeler, filed not later than the 60th day before the expiration of the period involved, the [November 16, 2016 disclosure date] may be extended by the Secretary with respect to the petitioner (but in no event for more than an additional 180 days) if the Secretary determines that the [disclosure date] would impose an undue hardship on such petitioner.

If a petition is to be filed the 60 day expiration filing deadline is September 17, 2016.

Please note that backup battery and uninterruptible power supplies and battery charger systems that are not consumer products, while excluded from the new battery charger system test procedure, remain regulated under Title 20 and must be tested and certified using the current battery charger system test procedures applicable to those products.

Questions on how to conduct the search of the database, or on the contents of this letter, can be directed to our email address at Appliances@energy.ca.gov or to the Appliances Call Center, toll free at (888) 838-1467, or outside California at (916) 651-7100 (9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. PST Monday through Friday, except state holidays).

Sincerely,



Leah Mohney
Supervisor
Appliances Unit