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Q & A APPLIANCE STANDARDS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Next Steps for the Obama Administration

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The Administration should catch up on overdue standards and complete all scheduled updates and new standards on time.



What are ASAP's recommendations for the Obama Administration?

To achieve significant cost, energy, and CO₂ savings, the Administration should:

- Catch up on [overdue](#) efficiency standards
- Complete all scheduled updates and new standards on time

What are the potential benefits of new efficiency standards during President Obama's second term?

If the Obama Administration catches up on overdue standards and completes new and updated standards on time, those actions would:

- Save 116 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity annually by 2025, which is equivalent to the annual electricity use of 10 million homes;
- Reduce CO₂ emissions by 70 million metric tons annually by 2025, which is equivalent to the annual emissions of 20 coal-fired power plants; and
- Net consumers and businesses \$70 billion in savings.

What are some examples of pending standards?

Commercial and Industrial Motors

Efficiency advocates and electric motor manufacturers last year [agreed](#) on new motor standards and submitted their recommendations to DOE. The new standards would roughly double the number of motors covered by national standards.

New efficiency standards for [electric motors](#) would:

- Save 9 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity annually by 2025, which is equivalent to the annual electricity use of 800,000 homes; and
- Reduce CO₂ emissions by 5 million metric tons annually by 2025, which is equivalent to the annual emissions of 1 million cars.

Commercial Rooftop AC

Congress unanimously passed energy efficiency legislation late last year that includes a requirement for DOE to update commercial rooftop air conditioner standards. Improving commercial AC efficiency is especially important for cutting peak electric demand, most typically on hot summer days. Lower peak demand makes outages less likely and can help avoid the need for new power plants.

New efficiency standards for [commercial rooftop air conditioners](#) would:

- Save 5 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity annually by 2025, which is equivalent to the annual electricity use of 500,000 homes; and
- Reduce CO₂ emissions by 3 million metric tons annually by 2025, which is equivalent to the emissions of 7 million barrels of oil.

Other products

Many other commercial and industrial product standards are pending. These include important new standards for commercial refrigeration equipment, ice makers and light fixtures and first-ever standards for commercial and industrial pumps and fans. Standards for most major home appliances were improved during President Obama's [first term](#).