



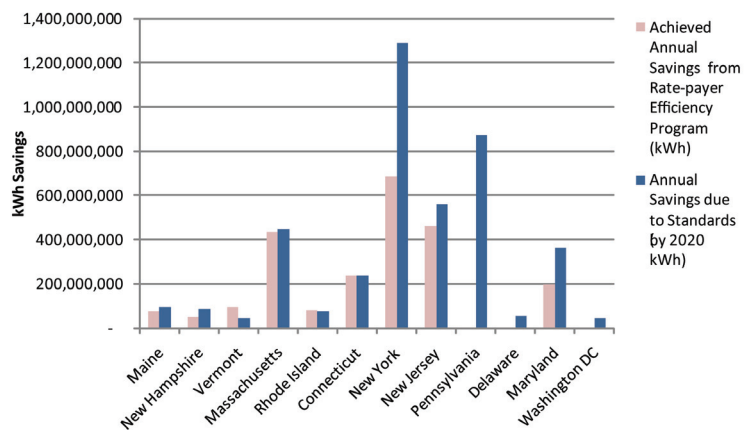
## BAR RAISED FOR HOME APPLIANCES: NEW AGREEMENT ON HOME APPLIANCES DEMONSTRATES SIGNIFICANCE OF FEDERAL STANDARDS TO NORTHEAST STATES

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships

### AGREEMENT REACHED!

Months of negotiations between a coalition of efficiency advocates, including Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP), and representatives from the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM), have resulted in a [formal agreement](#) on recommended improvements to federal minimum efficiency standards for several of the most common household appliances including clothes washers, clothes dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators, freezers, and room air conditioners. The recommended revised standards will raise the bar for efficiency for the next generation of home appliances. The effective dates for the new standards range between 2013-2015. Provisions for future test procedure revisions, manufacturer tax credits, and a provision for promoting smart grid capabilities through the ENERGY STAR program are also included in the agreement. The agreement has been delivered to both the Department of Energy (DOE) and to representatives of Congress with the expectation that the recommendations will be officially adopted one of two ways; administratively through the DOE or legislatively through Congress.

Comparing Savings: Standards vs. Efficiency Program



Compares projected savings from the standards (annual savings by 2020) to the total annual savings achieved by efficiency programs in recent years (years varied from 07-09).

### EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS COMPARED TO CURRENT STANDARDS

Appliance	Improvements in Efficiency	Effective Dates
Refrigerators	20 - 30%	January 2014
Freezers	25 - 30%	January 2014
Clothes Washers	~ 40% energy & water	January 2015
Clothes Dryers	5% (+ test procedure)	January 2015
Room Air Conditioners	10 - 15%	June 2014
Dishwashers	14% energy, 23% water	January 2013

The proposed efficiency standards are generally more stringent than current ENERGY STAR levels.

## AGREEMENT'S IMPACTS ON THE NORTHEAST WILL BE SIGNIFICANT

The graphics help to illustrate the fact that while these standards may be national in scope, the savings associated with them have direct and considerable impacts on the energy use of consumers in each and every state. The combined effect of the revised standards on New York, for example, will be a reduction of almost 1.3 billion kWh annually by 2020. That is nearly double the amount of electricity saved by their entire portfolio of rate-payer efficiency programs in 2008 and 5% of the reduction needed to meet their 2015 goal of reducing their state's total electricity use by 15%<sup>1</sup>. Review the table above and see how meaningful these standards will be to your state. At a time when states are setting aggressive goals to reduce energy use across all sectors, appliances standards should be viewed as an important mechanism to help states achieve those lofty goals.

## MINIMUM APPLIANCE STANDARDS, EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS AND MARKET TRANSFORMATION ACTIVITY

These negotiations would not have been possible without the important work of the regions' efficiency programs. Most of the Region's Residential Products programs work together in a collaborative process through the NEEP-facilitated Northeast Retail Products Initiative. The Initiative provides crucial information exchange across programs and enables an expanded level of consistency among efficiency program incentives and other support that brings powerful resources to consumers to promote energy efficient decisions. This process has driven the market towards high efficiency (ENERGY STAR qualified in most cases) appliances and has helped shift markets from low ENERGY STAR market penetration to penetrations exceeding 50% in some instances. This type of market shift is a necessary precursor to any meaningful improvement to the minimum standard. This successful negotiation with AHAM represents the "lock in" stage of market transformation and demonstrates the crucial impact of voluntary programs and regulated policies working together to move markets. Between the manufacturer tax credits and the program activities that promote products at the highest levels of available efficiency, we are setting the stage for another agreement years from now that locks in minimum standards at levels that are unachievable today. Clearly, strong rate-payer funded programs are complementary to minimum standards, each needing the other to provide sustained improvements in efficiency and energy savings.

## HOW CAN WE KEEP THIS BALL ROLLING?

Fortunately, these products represent only a fraction of the appliances covered by the DOE's Appliance Standards Program. As mentioned above, critical revisions to outdated standards are in the process of being revised. If the savings represented by the products in this package of products are exciting, there are additional opportunities with appliance standards that may motivate you and your organization. Beyond our ongoing efforts to see the AHAM standards formally adopted, NEEP will be focused on a number of upcoming rulemaking stages that we hope to influence. Has your state done all it can to promote strong appliance standards at the federal level through the DOE rulemakings, through the state standards processes, or supporting legislation that implements standards directly? With your input and support, our recommendations to the Department will be received with particular interest.

Products such as televisions, battery chargers/ext. power supplies, furnace fans are all rulemakings that will be ongoing during the second half of 2010 and into 2011. A similar consensus agreement on residential furnaces/central air conditioners/heat pumps has yet to be enacted legislatively or through the Department of Energy and would benefit from continued support from Northeast stakeholders. NEEP looks forward to working with your organization in the coming months to send the DOE strong and consistent messages that aggressive federal standards are important to the Northeast.