



September 22, 2023

To: Television Manufacturers and Retailers

From: Peter Strait, Branch Manager
Appliances Branch, Efficiency Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Indoor Television and Signage Displays, Temporary Changes to Certification Requirements and Related Actions

To all affected or interested parties,

An update to federal regulation in 10 CFR 430 specifies an amended test procedure for televisions, effective April 14, 2023. On and after September 11, 2023, manufacturers of televisions subject to the amended test procedure are prohibited by law from making representations of the energy use or energy efficiency of their product that are inconsistent with the amended test procedure, including the representations required by California Code of Regulations, Title 20, section 1606. These representations are necessary to determine compliance with California's minimum efficiency standards in Title 20, section 1605.3.

To provide clarity to all stakeholders and address the gap between the preemptive federal regulations and existing state regulations, the California Energy Commission (CEC) is publishing this letter to inform stakeholders of these changes and to confirm that manufacturers of televisions are temporarily unable to submit new product certifications to the CEC's Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System (MAEDbS).

Specifically, the CEC is announcing the following actions applicable to televisions within the scope of the amended federal test procedures.

The CEC will:

1. Initiate a rulemaking proceeding to amend State-adopted data reporting requirements¹ amended federal test requirement, noting that the federal test requirement does not have the 55" upper limit currently specified in California law. The CEC anticipates conducting this rulemaking within the current calendar year (2023).

¹ As specified in Title 20, Section 1606, and in Table X of that section.

2. Update MAEDbS to allow manufacturers to certify data generated by the federal test procedure for televisions, including models above 55". Certification of test data will be elective until CEC finalizes amendments to State-adopted data reporting requirements as described in item 1.
3. Schedule a separate, future rulemaking for consideration of potential amendments to minimum efficiency standards for televisions using data generated by the amended federally mandated test procedure.

As a result of these federal changes, manufacturers are not able to certify television units within the scope of the federally mandated test procedure manufactured on or after September 11, 2023. Because of this temporary limitation on certification, retailers may not be able to confirm whether certain TV models or units are certified to comply with the CEC's minimum efficiency standard.

The CEC is working diligently to update the certification requirements, as described in items 1 & 2, to conform to the federal updates. Televisions and signage displays subject to California certification requirements but outside of the scope of the amended federal test procedure are not affected by these changes, and must continue to be tested, certified, and listed in MAEDbS as currently specified in California law.

Questions can be submitted to our call center via phone or email at:

Appliance Standards Call Center
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