



August 20, 2010  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

EX PARTE filing

**RE: Docket No. EERE-2010-BT-NOA-0016 – Notice of Availability of Interpretive Rule on the Applicability of Current Water Conservation Standards for Showerheads**

This memorandum is to advise that Jenifer Simpson, Senior Director of Government Affairs at the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) participated in a phone call with Stephanie Weiner, Senior Legal Advisor to the General Counsel, U.S. Department of Energy, on August 20, 2010.

Discussion included the rationale behind the move to issue a final rule including topics such as water conservation and energy efficiency & independence, the eighteen-year old statute that requires showerheads to be limited to 2.5 gallons per minute, and the creation of a new office of enforcement addressing the 12 complaints received to date. Discussion also addressed the importance of considering the needs for independence and self-sufficiency for people with various physical and other disabilities, including the elderly, users of complex wheelchairs, and others who may benefit from greater flexibility and innovation in design of showerheads. Some multi-nozzle showerhead designs were discussed from the vantage point of consumers with disabilities.

AAPD supports the broadest range of consumer choices to be available in the important matters of personal hygiene.

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END

