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September 6, 2012

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VIA EMAIL

U.S. Department of Energy  
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RE: Ex Parte Communication, Docket EERE-2012-BT-STD-0022

To whom it may concern,

On September 5, 2012, representatives from PJM Interconnection LLC, National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association, Edison Electric Institute, American Public Power Association, and the Steffes Corporation (together, “Joint Commenters”) met with members of the Department of Energy (“Department”) to discuss the request for information “[...] Energy Conservation Standards for Residential Water Heaters” and the comments filed therein. Complete meeting attendee list attached.

At the meeting, Joint Commenters thanked the Department for opening a RFI to gather data and information on the use of electric thermal storage water heaters in utility demand response programs, and on the impact that the energy efficiency standards established by the Department on April 16, 2010 will have on the continued use and expansion of such programs. Joint Commenters expressed their view that the 150+ comments submitted were overwhelmingly supportive of finding a solution allowing grid-interactive water heaters greater than 55 gallons to exist in utility demand response programs, which help electric utilities apply downward pressure on rates through peak load management and low-cost, off-peak water heating (thermal storage).

Joint Commenters discussed the urgency of finding a solution to the continued use of grid-interactive water heaters as the final rule takes effect on April 15, 2015 and manufacturers ready the closing of >55 gallon water heater product lines. The group discussed options for finding a solution, including a waiver process or a notice of public rulemaking for a new product classification. Related to the latter, the group discussed ways in which grid-interactive water heaters may differ from those sold today at the point of manufacture.

Sincerely,

Scott Baker, on behalf of Joint Commenters



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Attendees:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Ashley Armstrong	Department of Energy
Lauren Azar	Department of Energy
Scott Baker	PJM Interconnection
Dan Cohen	Department of Energy
John Cymbalsky	Department of Energy
Craig Glazer	PJM Interconnection
Alex Hofmann	APPA
Kathleen Hogan	Department of Energy
Michael Hyland	APPA
David Mohre	NRECA
Jay Morrison	NRECA
Kelly Murphy	Steffes Corporation
Steve Rosenstock	EEI
Paul Steffes	Steffes Corporation
Rick Tempchin	EEI