

Frequently Asked Questions

Request for Information Pertaining to Test Procedures for Pumps

1. What is the purpose of this notice?

This Early Assessment Review Request for Information (“EAR RFI”) initiates the review process outlined by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act and seeks input from the public to assist the U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) with its determination about whether amended test procedures are warranted for pumps.

Information received in response to this request will help DOE determine whether amended test procedures for pumps would more accurately or fully comply with the requirements for the test procedures to not be unduly burdensome to conduct and be reasonably designed to produce test results that reflect energy efficiency, energy use, and estimated operating costs during a representative average use cycle.

This EAR RFI is part of DOE’s ongoing commitment to consider feedback from all interested stakeholders and promote an open and transparent rulemaking process.

2. What type of information is the Department looking for?

In this EAR RFI, DOE seeks information related to energy use measurements, representative average use cycle, test burden reductions, and consensus-based standards.

3. What is a pump?

The pumps that are the subject of this EAR RFI are equipment that is designed to move liquids (which may include entrained gases, free solids, and totally dissolved solids) by physical or mechanical action and includes at least a bare pump and, if included by the manufacturer at the time of sale, mechanical equipment, driver, and controls. Pumps that are subject to this RFI are clean water pumps primarily used in a variety of commercial, industrial, agricultural, and municipal applications. This RFI does not address dedicated-purpose pool pumps, which are subject to a separate test procedure

4. How much energy do pumps consume?

Pumps that are subject to the test procedure being reviewed use approximately 0.8 quads per year of source energy and account for 4.3 percent of total commercial energy use.

5. How many pumps are shipped annually in the United States?

Around 484,000 pumps are shipped each year that are subject to this EAR RFI.

6. Who are the parties that may be interested in this notice?

Interested parties include manufacturers of pumps, trade associations, distributors, energy utilities, state agencies, international organizations, and consumer, energy, and environmental advocacy groups.

7. How does an interested party comment on this notice and when are comments due?

The comment period for this rule will be 75 days, beginning on the date in which this document publishes in the *Federal Register*. Interested parties may submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> or via email to Pumps2020TP0032@ee.doe.gov, identified with docket number EERE-2020-BT-TP-0032. Comments may also be submitted via postal mail or hand delivery by following the instructions found in the document.