

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Notice of Data Availability and Request for Information Pertaining to Energy Conservation Standards for Computer Room Air Conditioners and Dedicated Outdoor Air Systems

#### 1. What is the purpose of this notice?

This Notice of Data Availability (“NODA”) and Request for Information (“RFI”) initiates review processes outlined by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended (“EPCA”). For certain types of commercial equipment, EPCA requires DOE to adopt relevant industry consensus standards following changes to that industry standard or, in limited circumstances, adopt more-stringent standards. As part of that process, DOE is required to publish an analysis of the energy savings potential of an amendment to the industry consensus standard. This notice asks for public comment on the energy savings potential of recent amendments to the industry consensus standard for certain classes of computer room air conditioners (“CRACs”) and new industry consensus standards for dedicated outdoor air systems (“DOASes”), commercial equipment that are subject to this process. DOE is also initiating a periodic review required under EPCA to determine whether to amend the current energy conservation standards for other classes of CRACs for which industry consensus standards were not amended.

Information received in response to this request will help DOE determine whether more stringent energy efficiency requirements for CRACs and DOASes than those in the industry consensus standard would result in significant additional energy savings, be technologically feasible, and be economically justified. This 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?

DOE seeks information related to the U.S. CRAC and DOAS industries, technologies, and markets. Among other topics, DOE seeks information regarding the methodology and results of its analysis of the updated industry consensus standards; the appropriateness of the equipment classes under the current Federal requirements and the industry consensus standards; and technological or market changes for CRACs since the most recent standards update.

#### 3. What are CRACs and DOASes?

CRACs and DOASes are categories of commercial package air conditioning and heating equipment. CRACs are used in computer rooms, data processing rooms, or other information technology cooling applications. DOASes are used to provide ventilation and dehumidification of 100 percent outdoor air.

#### 4. How much energy do CRACs and DOASes consume?

Nationally, DOE estimates that in 2016 CRACs and DOASes used 0.06 quads and 0.03 quads of primary energy, respectively. This represents 0.16 percent of all national annual building energy use for CRACs and 0.08 percent for DOASes.

#### 5. How many CRACs and DOASes are shipped annually in the United States?

The estimated annual shipments in 2016 were 10,075 CRACs and 36,000 DOASes.

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

Interested parties include CRACs and DOAS manufacturers, trade associations, distributors, 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 45 days, beginning on the date in which this document publishes in the *Federal Register*. Interested parties may submit comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> or via email to [CommACHeatingEquipCat2017STD0017@ee.doe.gov](mailto:CommACHeatingEquipCat2017STD0017@ee.doe.gov), identified with docket number EERE-2017-BT-STD-0017.