

Frequently Asked Questions

Request for Information Pertaining to Energy Conservation Standards for Electric Motors

1. What is the purpose of this notice?

This Request for Information (“RFI”) initiates the review process outlined by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended, and seeks input from the public to assist the U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) with its determination about whether amended energy conservation standards are warranted for electric motors

Information received in response to this request will help DOE determine whether amending the energy efficiency requirements for electric motors would result in significant energy savings and whether such standards would be technologically feasible and 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. electric motor industry, technology, and market. In particular, DOE requests information on the applicability of previously evaluated technologies to the current market, as well as on other technologies DOE should consider. To the extent that DOE evaluates potential energy conservation standards, DOE requests comment and information regarding the use of representative equipment classes to evaluate the broader equipment class groups. DOE also requests data on shipments, efficiency trends, and annual energy use.

3. What is an Electric Motor?

Electric motors convert electrical power into rotational mechanical power and appear in a variety of applications including fans and blowers, pumps, gas compressors, conveyors and material handling, and industrial machinery operation. This RFI does not address “small electric motors” and “dedicated-purpose pool pump motors” which are addressed separately.

4. How much energy do Electric Motors consume?

Nationally, the electric motors subject to energy conservation standards consume approximately 9.3 quads FFC (3.2 quads site) (17.5 percent of total commercial and industrial energy use).

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

Approximately 4 million electric motors units are shipped annually in the United States.

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

Interested parties include manufacturers of electric motors, 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 30 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 ElecMotors2020STD0007@ee.doe.gov, identified with docket number EERE-2020-BT-STD-0007. Comments may also be submitted via postal mail or hand delivery by following the instructions found in the document.