

This final document represents the definitive view of the agency on the questions addressed and may be relied upon by the regulated industry and members of the public.

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Guidance Type: Test Procedures

Category: Residential Products

Product: Television Sets

Guidance Version: FINAL

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On October 25, 2013, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued a Final Rule establishing a new test procedure for TVs after receiving and considering comments from television manufacturers and other interested parties. 78 FR 63823. The rule became effective on November 25, 2013, with a required compliance date of April 23, 2014. The new test procedure can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations at 10 CFR Part 430 Subpart B, Appendix H and should be followed in conjunction with the sampling plan located at 10 CFR § 429.25.

In response to industry questions regarding the final rule, DOE issued draft guidance on February 5, 2014 and received one comment from the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), in which they expressed their support of the guidance. NRDC further requested DOE consider expanding the scope of the guidance to: (1) add additional reporting requirements; and (2) include a discussion of testing TVs capable of displaying images in ultra-high definition. The current guidance provides clarity only for issues addressed within the existing TV test procedure rule; DOE deems NRDC's suggestions outside the scope of the current guidance.

Q: Appendix H requires the TV be placed in home configuration for several different tests. Because the home configuration is selected from the forced menu, how should manufacturers test TVs that do not have a forced menu? For example, how do you select preset picture settings for a TV that does not have a forced menu? How do you conduct luminance testing for a TV without a forced menu?

A: For a TV without a forced menu, manufacturers should consider the as-shipped configuration to be the home configuration whenever Appendix H references the home configuration. Thus, a TV without a forced menu should be in the default as-shipped picture setting for all on mode tests, and luminance measurements should be taken in the as-shipped default and as-shipped brightest selectable preset picture settings.

Q: Do the requirements of Appendix H section 5.5 regarding the configuration of a special function apply to selections within a forced menu?

A: While the TV is in on mode, the most power consumptive configuration must be selected whenever a message prompt is displayed requesting the configuration of a special function, including configurations selected from a forced menu. As explained in the note to section 5.5, the sole exception to this is the initial selection of the home or retail configuration from the forced menu.