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Guidance Type: Test Procedures

Category: Residential Products

Product: Clothes Washers, Clothes Dryers, and Dishwashers

Guidance Version: DRAFT

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The following is a draft U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) guidance document regarding test procedures for residential clothes washers, clothes dryers, and dishwashers. This draft guidance document represents the Department's interpretation of the existing regulations and is exempt from the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act. (5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A)) Nevertheless, the Department is accepting comments and suggestions from the public until **November 6, 2014**. Comments and suggestions should be provided in WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, PDF, or text file format by sending an email to MechOnOffSwitch2014GUID0046@ee.doe.gov. Include docket number [EERE-2014-BT-GUID-0046](#) in your correspondence. At the end of the comment period, this draft guidance document may be adopted, revised or withdrawn.

Q: For a clothes washer, clothes dryer or dishwasher with a "hard" on/off switch or electromechanical dial that physically breaks the connection to the mains power supply, is the appliance considered to be in "off mode" when the switch or dial is in the "off" position?

A: Yes, when the switch or dial is in the "off" position, the appliance would be considered in "off mode" as defined in appendices C1, D1, D2 and J2 of Subpart B to 10 CFR Part 430, as long as no standby or active mode functions are provided. Off mode is defined as a mode in which the product is connected to a mains power source and is not providing any active mode or standby function, and where the mode may persist for an indefinite period of time. In addition, an indicator that only shows the user that the product is in the off position is included within the classification of an off mode. Pursuant to this definition, an indicator light that illuminates to indicate that the switch or dial is in the off position is not considered such a standby or active mode function. The appliance would still be considered to be in off mode when such an indicator is active.