



# Regulatory Advisory

November 27, 2019

## **APPLIANCE EFFICIENCY REGULATIONS FOR GENERAL SERVICE LAMPS**

Beginning January 1, 2020, general service lamps (GSLs) with an efficacy less than 45 lumens per watt (lpw) cannot be sold or offered for sale in California.

### **Background**

On December 3, 2008, the California Energy Commission (CEC) adopted appliance efficiency regulations requiring that GSLs manufactured on or after January 1, 2018, have an efficacy greater than or equal to 45 lpw, as allowed by federal statute.<sup>1</sup> Enforcement of this requirement for GSLs was contingent on the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) failing to meet its federal statutory obligations related to GSLs.<sup>2</sup> DOE failed to meet those requirements and the CEC began enforcing the minimum 45 lpw efficacy requirement for A-shape GSLs manufactured on or after January 1, 2018, and sold or offered for sale in California.

Separately, DOE published in the Federal Register two final definitional rules on January 19, 2017 expanding the scope of GSLs, effective January 1, 2020.<sup>3</sup> On March 30, 2017, the CEC issued a regulatory advisory indicating it would enforce this expanded definition with clarifying regulations.<sup>4</sup>

On November 13, 2019, the CEC adopted clarifying regulations confirming that the January 19, 2017, definitional rules for GSLs remain applicable to the existing California requirement that GSLs have an efficacy greater than or equal to 45 lpw.<sup>5</sup> These [clarifying regulations](#) will be enforced for GSLs sold or offered for sale in California on or after January 1, 2020.

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<sup>1</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 6295(i)(6)(A).

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 82 Fed. Reg. 7276 and 82 Fed. Reg. 7322. On September 5, 2019, DOE published a final rule purporting to withdraw the federal definitional rules related to GSLs. The purported withdrawal is being legally challenged by California, 14 other states, the District of Columbia, and the City of New York.

<sup>4</sup> [Regulatory Advisory for lamps dated March 30, 2017](https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/appliances/documents/2017-03-30_Regulatory_Advisory_Lighting.pdf) available at [https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/appliances/documents/2017-03-30\\_Regulatory\\_Advisory\\_Lighting.pdf](https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/appliances/documents/2017-03-30_Regulatory_Advisory_Lighting.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> [Resolution adopting regulations for general service lamps](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=230816&DocumentContentId=62434) available at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=230816&DocumentContentId=62434>

## **For more information**

To obtain a copy of the regulations or other related compliance assistance documents, visit the [Appliance Efficiency Program](#). Additional questions may be addressed by calling the Appliances Title 20 Compliance Assistance Call Center, toll free inside California at (888) 838-1467 or outside California at (916) 651-7100, or by emailing [appliances@energy.ca.gov](mailto:appliances@energy.ca.gov).