

DOE response to questions from AHAM on the supplemental proposed test procedure for residential clothes washers"?

(1) What exactly does the language in Part B mean and what is the intent?

- The intent of Part B is to use the methodology that AHAM had suggested specifically for extra-hot cycles, but to make it more broadly applicable to any temperature combination that is locked out of the Normal cycle.
- The proposed Part (B) language is meant to be consistent with GE's original suggestion in response to the NOPR. (GE, No. 15 at pp. 1-2)
- When testing cycles under Part (B), manufacturers would only need to test the temperature combination that is locked out of the Normal cycle.
- Any alternate cycle that offers the locked-out temperature combination would be considered (although only the most energy-intensive cycle would be chosen for actual testing).
- The purpose of part B is, in general, to continue to require testing only a single cycle setting/temperature combination for each temperature combination specified in the test procedure (i.e., extra-hot wash/cold rinse, hot wash/cold rinse, etc.) Manufacturers would not, for example, be required to test multiple cycles that each had a hot wash/cold rinse option.
- To initially determine for each model which alternate cycle uses the most energy for a given temperature combination that is not available on the Normal cycle, manufacturers would only test the maximum load size at that temperature in order to make the determination. The most energy-intensive alternate cycles would then be reported to DOE and used for validation/compliance/additional testing so that this section of the test procedure would not need to be repeated.

(2) The Temperature Use Factor table is unclear. One example is what is the definition of "extra hot" and what are these factors based on?

- The second SNOPR was narrowly focused on the energy test cycle definition, so no changes to the TUF table were made since the NOPR.
- The definition of "extra hot" is unchanged from the current test procedure – as defined in section 3.3, extra-hot is the maximum wash temperature over 135 degF, for water-heating clothes washers only.
- As explained in the NOPR, the TUFs for extra-hot and steam were developed by assigning a 2% TUF to steam, and subtracting 2% from the accompanying extra-hot TUF.
- DOE is considering manufacturer comments to the NOPR regarding the extra-hot/steam cycles in preparing the final rule.