

Frequently Asked Questions

Request for Information Pertaining to Test Procedures for Battery Chargers

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 and seeks input from the public to assist the U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) with its determination about whether amended test procedures are warranted for Battery Chargers.

Information received in response to this request will help DOE determine whether amending the test procedures for battery chargers would more accurately or fully comply with the requirements for the test procedures to not be unduly burdensome to conduct and be reasonably designed to produce test results that reflect energy efficiency, energy use, and estimated operating costs during a representative average use cycle or period of use.

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?

In this RFI, DOE seeks information on testing wireless battery chargers (other than those used in wet environments), battery chargers requiring a wall adapter, new battery chemistries not represented by the current test procedure, battery selection criteria for third party chargers, the Unit Energy Consumption metric, and battery charger usage profiles.

3. What is a battery charger?

A battery charger is a device that charges batteries for consumer products, including any battery charger embedded in other consumer products.

4. How much energy do battery chargers consume?

Battery charger shipments in 2018 consumed 1.2 billion kilowatt hour of site electricity, approximately 0.05% of total residential energy use.

5. How many battery chargers are shipped annually in the United States?

More than 500 million units of battery chargers are shipped annually.

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

Interested parties include manufacturers of battery chargers, 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 Batterychargers2020TP0012@ee.doe.gov, identified with docket number EERE-2020-BT-TP-0012. Comments may also be submitted via postal mail or hand delivery by following the instructions found in the document.