Standby Power Meetings
Seoul, Korea, 2 -3 November 2009
Outcome Report

The delegates of two international projects that focus on reducing standby power in appliances have agreed to work cooperatively together for the benefit of both activities. The meetings were attended by 29 delegates and observers representing 10 countries who are members of either or both projects.

Avoiding duplication and leveraging resources

The 4E Annex on Standby Power was initiated to undertake selected tasks that had been identified as needed in order to tackle standby power globally. At separate and joint meetings of the 4E Standby Power Annex and the APP Standby Power project in Korea delegates confirmed the unique contribution provided by each group and determined to co-operate closely to avoid duplication and the waste of resources.

In addition, these organisations agreed to co-ordinate the monitoring and communication with other standby projects, in particular those of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation and the European Union. Where complimentary tasks are identified, it was agreed to share information and reporting.

Delegates examined the terms of both existing projects and endorsed them as continuing to represent the aims of both projects.

Sharing a common approach

The existing APP and 4E projects both support the development of common approaches for addressing standby power, recognising each county’s authority to determine their own policy development approach. The common data collection methodologies are relevant in all countries and can be used to monitor and track both voluntary and mandatory actions to address standby power. Delegates were informed that the EU standby project for collecting measurements had also adopted the APP methodology.

As many energy-using products are internationally traded, it makes sense to utilise similar test methodologies and requirements for national programs, irrespective of whether a voluntary or mandatory approach is taken. The 4E Standby Annex will support efforts by undertaking unique projects to reduce standby power of products connected to networks and the low power mode of all products with similar functions. The 4E participants will connect with national and regional efforts focusing on standby power policy approaches and seek to complement these research projects or facilitate their use elsewhere in the world.
General Decisions

The delegates of 4E and APP committed to:

- A common standby power data collection methodology, originally developed by APP, for the “Basket of Products” and agreed to continue measurement surveys of new products and build on this approach.

- Regular meetings with side events to enable open participation of all stakeholders, and to meet concurrently where possible with APEC and other organisations to reduce costs and widen the communications;

- The establishment of an international database for standby power measurements to enable policy research and track trends, as well provide public information on aggregated standby power data.

In addition, 4E agreed to:

- Waive intellectual property in research and outputs, with only the need to acknowledge 4E as the source; and accepted that publications are co-branded to encourage collaboration;

- Finalise the key 4E tasks, including research on:
  - horizontal policy approaches;
  - networked appliances; and potentially,
  - a global methodology to evaluate the impacts of standby power policy approaches.

A joint workshop of 4E and APP proposed that an expert group write a taxonomy of low power modes. Since more organisations and countries collect standby power data across numerous product types, there is a need to ensure data is collected utilising a harmonised set of definitions of low power modes applicable to common product groups.

Background

Asia Pacific Partnership (APP) Project: Alignment of National Standby Power Approaches

From late 2007, the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development Climate has been working on the Alignment of National Standby Power Approaches. This project is supporting the collection of standby power data from partner countries and promoting the development of policies and programs that lower standby power in appliances.

IEA Implementing Agreement on Efficiency Electrical End Use Equipment (4E): Standby Power Annex

In 2009, the 4E Implementing agreement created the Standby Power Annex. The project aims to monitor and report the extent of, and changes in, energy consumption by electrical appliances in low-power modes (standby power); and support the development of policies which seek to minimise excessive energy consumption by products in standby power modes.