

Provision of a Horizontal Policy Approach to Standby Power

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Date: 30 June 2011

Commissioned by: Australian Government, DCCEE

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<p>Focus of Report</p>	<p>This report presents a framework for analysing policies at an international level that aim to address standby power in electrical end-use equipment. This framework is used to analyse several options for an internationally harmonised approach to standby power. The report addresses standby power modes horizontally (across all products) and internationally in a harmonised way.</p>
<p>Description of Research</p>	<p>The research first developed an analytical framework of standby power policies. The framework included the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Scope: (a) does the policy apply to one or more narrowly defined product groups? (b) is the policy truly horizontal (applies to all products)? (c) is it sectorally horizontal (applies to broad groups of similar products)? (2) Limit: (a) does the policy specify a hard limit for standby for all products within its scope? (b) does the policy specify a functional allowance if there is the presence of specific components and/or functions? (c) does the policy define different limits for products within its scope based on the service which it provides to the user? (3) Evolution: (a) is the policy tiered so that certain changes come into effect in the future? (b) is the policy externalised which allows the policy itself to remain static? (c) is the policy fixed such that it could be reviewed at a future time if necessary? <p>The above framework was applied to two current policies, the IEA 1 Watt Plan and the European Union Directive 1275/2008 as examples. The research then applied the framework to three hypothetical horizontal policy options, assessing their strengths and weaknesses. A recommended approach was then derived. Practical examples of how the recommended policy approach would operate were also provided. The practical examples were based on a domestic electric oven, a complex set-top box and a home gateway. The examples demonstrated how certain products may or may not be compliant based on either the hard limit or the functional allowances, as well as in jurisdictions that reference different tiers.</p>
<p>Key Findings</p>	<p>The authors suggest that the most promising approach to address standby power at an international level is one that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) sets a hard limit, i.e. an explicit limit for standby power for all products and (2) includes a functional allowance, i.e. a limit that is based on the presence of specific

	components and/or functions within a particular product.
Conclusions	<p>The recommended horizontal policy approach is to develop a combination of a hard limit and a functional allowance for electrical products. In order to achieve this, it would be necessary to develop a repository to host the definitions and limit values. This repository would be available to all jurisdictions. It is recommended that the repository respond to the individual needs of policy makers by providing less ambitious to more ambitious tiers of hard limits and functional allowances.</p>
Standby power policy Implications	<p>The research acknowledges that there are several questions that would need to be resolved in order to develop the horizontal policy approach recommended. They include managerial issues such as: what organisation could host the repository, which countries would be interested in taking part, how would additional countries join and how would the repository be governed? Technical issues raised include: what information should the repository include and how should allowance data be structured? Other issues such as defining the function of the repository, monitoring and updating, and guidance to participants on how to use the repository were also mentioned by the authors as areas that would need to be addressed for the recommended approach to be successful.</p> <p>The authors acknowledge that although the recommended policy approach is argued to be the most efficient in the long term, it would be somewhat burdensome to establish in the short term.</p>