Additional Background Information on DOE Rulemaking

Taking a strong industry leadership role on this issue, HI has been at the forefront of educating DOE staff, energy efficiency non-government organizations (NGOs) and other stakeholders, to ensure that whatever regulations are eventually set are: reasonable, based on globally consistent metrics and/or regulations which are limited in scope. HI has also sought to ensure that future rules are economically justified and technologically feasible. HI has kept its members, as well as non-members, informed of details of its communications to DOE, provided oral comments during public meetings in Washington, DC, written letters to DOE during public comment period and has offered and actively promoted periodic WebEx briefings for non-members as well as provided regular updates to members during HI’s three meetings a year. It is clear that HI’s efforts to inform members and non-members alike has helped individual companies anticipate the business impact of future regulations…and helped them prepare to compete in a regulated marketplace that will likely require improvements in pump efficiency.

Energy savings with optimizing “Extended Products” far exceeds what can be obtained by eliminating the least efficient pump products in the market. It is anticipated that a DOE regulation on pump efficiency will be established in either 2016 under the traditional process or by 2015 under the negotiated rulemaking process. The pump industry will have from three to five years to become fully compliant. It is likely that the least efficient pumps that are covered by the regulation will be phased out of the market by regulation. At this point, HI cannot confirm which specific pump types will be covered and/or what final metrics will be used by DOE to establish its regulations. This site, however, will clarify the detailed positions that HI has taken in this regard with DOE. These, the Institute understands, are still under active consideration by the Department and are subject to further discussion during the “negotiated rulemaking” procedures.