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Efficiency Standards for Light Bulbs

The [Energy Independence and Security Act \(EISA\) of 2007](#) was passed with the intention of moving the United States toward greater energy security, partly by increasing the standards for product efficiency. Section 321 of the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) establishes increased minimum energy efficiency standards for general service lamps. EISA does not ban incandescent light bulbs, but its minimum efficiency standards are high enough that the incandescent lamps most commonly used by consumers today will not meet the new requirements. Once implemented, the Act will essentially eliminate 40W, 60W, 75W, and 100W medium screw-base incandescent light bulbs.

Definition of a General Service Lamp

General service lamps include:

- General service incandescent lamps
- Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs)
- General service light-emitting diode (LED) or organic light emitting diode (OLED) lamps

- Any other lamps that the Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE) determines are used to satisfy lighting applications traditionally serviced by general service incandescent lamps

In addition, general service lamps are:

- Intended for general service applications
- Medium screw-base lamps
- Designed for a light output between 310 and 2600 lumens
- Capable of operating at a voltage range at least partially within 110 and 130 volts

Rated Lumen Ranges	Typical Current Lamp Wattage	Maximum Rate Wattage	Minimum Rated Lifetime	Effective Date	CA Effective Date
1490-2600	100	72	1,000 hrs	1/1/2012	1/1/2011
1050-1489	75	53	1,000 hrs	1/1/2013	1/1/2012
750-1049	60	43	1,000 hrs	1/1/2014	1/1/2013
310-749	40	29	1,000 hrs	1/1/2014	1/1/2013

The effective date for each phase listed above indicates the first date that non-compliant products are prohibited from being manufactured or imported into the United States. California will implement the standards one year before the rest of the country.

Exemptions

Twenty-two types of incandescent lamps are exempt from the new minimum efficiency standards defined by EISA. DOE will monitor sales of these exempted lamp types after the legislation is implemented. If DOE determines that any exempted lamp type doubles in sales, EISA requires DOE to establish an energy conservation standard for that lamp type. This provision will prohibit any exempted lamp type from taking market share from the general service lamps affected by the EISA efficiency standards listed in the chart above.

Exempted lamps:

1. Appliance lamps
2. Black light lamps
3. Bug lamps
4. Colored lamps
5. Infrared lamps
6. Left-hand thread lamps
7. Marine lamps
8. Marine's signal service lamps
9. Mine service lamps
10. Plant light lamps
11. Reflector lamps
12. Rough service lamps
13. Shatter-resistant lamps (including shatter-proof and shatter-protected)
14. Sign service lamps
15. Silver bowl lamps
16. Showcase lamps
17. 3-way incandescent lamps
18. Traffic signal lamps
19. Vibration service lamps
20. G shape lamps with a diameter of 5" or more
21. T shape lamps that use no more than 40W or are longer than 10"
22. B, BA, CA, F, G16-1/2, G-25, G-30, M-14, or S lamps of 40W or less

Please see the [EISA Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.