

Dear members of the Pennsylvania legislature,

We the undersigned organizations, businesses, and community leaders write to respectfully ask you to **support bipartisan legislation introduced by state Representatives Jennifer O'Mara and Thomas Mehaffie and state Senator Lindsey Williams to promote energy and water efficiency standards for a set of appliances sold in Pennsylvania.** This legislation is [HB 1615](#) and [SB 755](#).

Energy efficiency is a crucial tool for reducing air and global warming pollution, conserving water, and saving consumers money on their utility bills.

That's because the cheapest, cleanest form of energy is the energy that we don't need to use or produce in the first place.

[HB 1615](#) and [SB 755](#) will require energy efficiency and water conservation standards for a set of 15 commercial and residential appliances sold in the Commonwealth. All of these appliances are already on the market, competitively priced, and available to Pennsylvania consumers and businesses today.

This legislation can play a critical role to help Pennsylvania tackle climate change, reduce air pollution, conserve our water resources, and save the Commonwealth's consumers and businesses money on their utility bills.

If implemented into law, these efficiency standards are expected to achieve the following savings **annually** by 2030:

- Cut emissions of the global warming pollution by over 384,000 metric tons, the equivalent of taking over 85,000 cars off the road;
- Slash nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions by 217 tons. NOx is the smog-forming pollutant that triggers asthma and other respiratory ailments;
- Reduce fine particulate emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO2) by more than 105 tons. SO2 reduces lung function and exasperates respiratory ailments;
- Conserve nearly 10 billion gallons of water;
- Save Pennsylvania consumers and businesses almost \$300 million on their utility bills.

Of the 15 appliances included in HB 1615 and SB 755, 10 have a negligible price differences between the average sticker price when comparing the more energy efficient appliance to the less energy efficient model found on the store shelf, 4 have a payback period of 1-3 years, and only 1 appliance (commercial ovens) has a payback period greater than 5 years. This means that in most cases, businesses and consumers start saving money on day one.

As you can see, this legislation will go a long way towards protecting the health, environment, and pocketbooks of Pennsylvania's residents and businesses. For these reasons, we support this important proposal and hope that you will too by cosponsoring this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Organizations:

PennEnvironment
Audubon Mid-Atlantic
Breathe Project
Bucks Environmental Action
CASA/ CASA in Action
Chestnut Hill United Church
Clean Air Council
Clean Water Action
Conservation Voters of PA
Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR)
Green Building Alliance
Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA)
Narberth Environmental Advisory Council
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
PA Jewish Earth Alliance
PennFuture
Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light
Pennsylvania Utility Law Project
Philadelphia Solar Energy Association
Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania
Pocono Heritage Land Trust
Sanderson Sustainable Design
Sierra Club, Pennsylvania Chapter
Thomas Blvd Group
Vote Solar
Working for Justice Ministry St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Local elected officials:

Mayme Baumann, Chairperson, Board of Supervisors, Uwchlan Township
Alice Gabriel, Councilperson, Etna Borough
Elizabeth Dale Harris, EAC member, Lansdowne
Jim Lee, Commissioner, Springfield Township (Montco)
Maggy Myers, Commissioner, Radnor Township
Erika Strassburger, Councilperson, Pittsburgh City Council
Sharon Yates, Township Supervisor, Valley Township



Appliance Efficiency Standards

Pennsylvania business and residents are spending more money than necessary running appliances and lighting in homes and businesses. Efficiency standards ensure the products we purchase use energy and water efficiently while preserving quality and affordability. Commonwealth residents can put money saved on utility bills towards the important things in life.

The basics of appliance efficiency standards

- Set a minimum level of energy and water efficiency for certain household and commercial appliances
- Creates savings for consumers and businesses
- Encourages innovative water- and energy-saving technologies

Standards can bring huge benefits to Pennsylvania

- **Affordability:** Cutting energy waste saves consumers and businesses money on utility bills
- **Jobs:** Local economies get a boost when consumers have more spending money
- **Public health:** Air quality improve when emissions and pollutants are cut, improving public health

Neighboring states are acting on standards

- In the northeast, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, and Vermont have adopted a similar package of standards.
- Outside the northeast, Nevada, Colorado, California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii have adopted many of the same



By 2030, new standards could save the electricity equivalent to powering **44,000** Pennsylvania homes. By 2040 this would increase to **77,000** homes.



New efficiency standards would save Pennsylvania consumers and businesses **\$294 million** per year on their utility bills by 2030. This would rise to **\$600 million** per year by 2040.

*The best energy and water saving policy
you've never heard of!*

Support Appliance Standards in Pennsylvania in 2023

The time to act is now!



Energy savings



Water Savings



Utility Bill Savings



Emissions Reductions

What's in it for Pennsylvania consumers?

Residents, businesses, and government save money

Efficiency standards ensure that the products we purchase energy and water efficiently while preserving quality and affordability.

Pennsylvania residents, businesses, and local and state governments will save more than **\$294 million annually by 2030**, which can be re-invested Pennsylvania's economy, spurring job creation.

Water savings can reduce strain on water supply and delay the need for water and sewer infrastructure improvements.

Do I have to buy expensive new products?

No. Efficiency standards merely raise the floor for products available for new purchases and do not require changing out of products currently in use. The recommended standards are also set to ensure consumers and businesses will have numerous choices of qualifying products to purchase.

 Residential	 Commercial	 Water	 Multi-Sector
Portable electric spas	Commercial dishwashers	Faucets	High CRI, cold temperature, and impact-resistant fluorescent lamps
Residential ventilating fans	Commercial fryers	Showerheads	Water coolers
	Commercial ovens	Spray sprinkler bodies	
	Commercial steam cookers	Toilets (water closets)	
	Hot food holding cabinets	Urinals	

Appliance Standards Awareness Project 2023 State Appliance Standards Recommendations

Savings estimates for: Pennsylvania

	Potential annual savings in 2030						Potential annual savings in 2040					
	Electricity (GWh)	Natural gas (BBtu)	Water (million gallons)	NO _x (tons)	SO ₂ (tons)	CO ₂ (thous. MT)	Electricity (GWh)	Natural gas (BBtu)	Water (million gallons)	NO _x (tons)	SO ₂ (tons)	CO ₂ (thous. MT)
Commercial dishwashers	8.1	199	277	9.5	1.4	13.1	19.4	477	664	22.8	2.8	30.4
Commercial fryers	3.1	1,026	--	46.7	0.5	55.5	6.7	2,240	--	101.9	1.0	120.7
Commercial ovens	8.3	132	--	6.5	1.4	9.6	18.0	289	--	14.2	2.6	20.0
Commercial steam cookers	5.2	42	117	2.2	0.9	3.8	11.4	91	254	4.8	1.6	7.8
Faucets	116.2	752	3,340	41.7	19.9	73.1	211.3	1,365	6,065	74.5	30.0	127.2
Gas fireplaces	--	265	--	12.0	--	14.1	--	724	--	32.8	--	38.4
High CRI fluorescent lamps	72.5	--	--	4.7	12.4	22.3	18.4	--	--	1.1	2.6	4.8
Portable electric spas	128.2	--	--	8.4	22.0	36.5	215.5	--	--	12.9	30.6	55.9
Residential ventilating fans	14.3	--	--	0.9	2.5	4.1	39.0	--	--	2.3	5.5	10.1
Showerheads	232.8	1,499	4,562	83.1	39.9	145.9	423.2	2,725	8,295	148.8	60.1	254.4
Spray sprinkler bodies	--	--	400	--	--	--	--	--	727	--	--	--
Toilets (water closets)	--	--	740	--	--	--	--	--	1,968	--	--	--
Urinals	--	--	141	--	--	--	--	--	308	--	--	--
Water coolers	20.9	--	--	1.4	3.6	6.5	38.0	--	--	2.3	5.4	9.9
Total	610	3,916	9,578	217	105	384	1,001	7,909	18,281	418	142	680

Assuming a compliance date of 2025 for all the recommended standards. Totals may not sum due to rounding. While we continue to recommend the adoption of state-level standards for commercial hot-food holding cabinets and computers and computer monitors, we have not estimated savings for these products due to insufficient data on the current market.

Savings estimates for: Pennsylvania

	Potential annual utility bill savings (million 2021\$)		Net present value savings (million 2021\$)	Benefit-cost ratio	Payback period (years)
	In 2030	In 2040			
Commercial dishwashers	7.4	19.4	125.3	11.2	1.0
Commercial fryers	9.4	20.1	102.2	3.1	2.8
Commercial ovens	1.9	4.2	7.3	1.3	6.7
Commercial steam cookers	2.9	7.0	46.6	12.5	0.8
Faucets	84.6	170.9	1279.3	no cost	0.0
Gas fireplaces	2.8	7.6	47.3	10.0	1.0
High CRI fluorescent lamps	7.0	2.2	30.7	2.9	2.1
Portable electric spas	19.6	33.9	239.1	9.4	0.7
Residential ventilating fans	2.2	6.1	43.0	no cost	0.0
Showerheads	131.8	263.9	1,933.4	no cost	0.0
Spray sprinkler bodies	7.1	14.8	101.9	15.1	0.6
Toilets (water closets)	13.1	40.1	343.2	no cost	0.0
Urinals	2.5	6.3	44.8	no cost	0.0
Water coolers	1.9	3.5	27.4	no cost	0.0
Total	294	600	4,421	31.4	-

Assuming a compliance date of 2025 for all the recommended standards, Net present value savings take into account both utility bill savings and estimated impacts on product costs for items sold between 2025 and 2040. Totals may not sum due to rounding. The total benefit-cost ratio is calculated as the present value of the total utility bill savings from products sold through 2040 for the package of recommended standards divided by the present value of the total additional costs. While we continue to recommend the adoption of state-level standards for commercial hot-food holding cabinets and computers and computer monitors, we have not estimated savings for these products due to insufficient data on the current market.

Cumulative savings estimates for: Pennsylvania

	Potential cumulative savings through 2040					
	Electricity (GWh)	Natural gas (Tbtu)	Water (billion gallons)	NO _x (tons)	SO ₂ (tons)	CO ₂ (thous. MT)
Commercial dishwashers	182	4.5	6.2	214.7	27.3	289.0
Commercial dryers	67	22.4	--	1,093.2	10.1	1,208.3
Commercial ovens	180	2.9	--	142.2	27.0	203.7
Commercial steam cookers	114	0.9	2.5	43.4	17.1	80.2
Faucets	2,324	15.0	66.7	825.5	350.4	1,418.3
Gas fireplaces	--	6.2	--	278.7	--	326.7
High CRI fluorescent lamps	721	--	--	46.2	115.8	214.4
Portable electric spas	2,446	--	--	152.5	371.0	654.8
Residential ventilating fans	332	--	--	20.5	49.6	88.2
Showerheads	4,655	30.0	91.2	1,647.9	702.0	2,834.4
Spray sprinkler bodies	--	--	8.0	--	--	--
Toilets (water closets)	--	--	17.0	--	--	--
Urinals	--	--	3.1	--	--	--
Water coolers	418	--	--	26.0	63.1	117.1
Total	11,440	82	195	4,422	1,734	7,435

Assuming a compliance date of 2025 for all the recommended standards. Totals may not sum due to rounding. While we continue to recommend the adoption of state-level standards for commercial hot-food holding cabinets and computers and computer monitors, we have not estimated savings for these products due to insufficient data on the current market.