

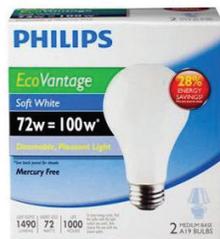
Oppose Efforts to Roll Back Light Bulb Efficiency Standards

Standards Do Not Ban Incandescent Bulbs, But Can Deliver American Families Savings of More Than \$100 Per Year

In 2007, Congress passed and President Bush signed into law energy efficiency standards for new screw-based light bulbs. Several bills, including the BULB Act (S. 395 & H.R. 91), have been introduced to repeal or undermine these standards. Doing so would increase household energy bills, stifle innovation that is creating U.S. jobs, and increase air pollution that harms human health and the environment.

STANDARDS WILL IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Beginning in 2012, the light bulb efficiency standards enacted as a bipartisan amendment in the House Energy and Commerce Committee to the 2007 energy bill will require new bulbs to use 25 to 30 percent less energy than traditional incandescent light bulbs, and 65 percent less energy by 2020.



The new and more energy efficient incandescent light bulbs are already reaching store shelves.

STANDARDS WILL DRIVE EXPANDED OPTIONS FOR CONSUMERS

Some critics falsely claim that the 2012 standards will ban the incandescent light bulb, but the facts show that consumers will have a wide range of bulbs to choose from—including new and improved incandescent bulbs—and save considerably on their energy bills each year. Consumers will also have the choice of buying compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and light emitting diodes (LEDs) that are far more efficient than required by the 2012 standard.

Several manufacturers—GE, Philips Lighting, and Osram Sylvania—already sell new energy-efficient incandescent bulbs that use halogen technology. These bulbs meet the 2012 standards and are already available for sale. They look and perform just like conventional incandescent bulbs, but don't use the same old technology, which has changed very little over the past 125 years.

The entire lighting industry supports the standards. Thwarting these standards would create uncertainty for many of these lighting manufacturers that have already shifted significant investments and resources—including retooling factories—to research, develop, and produce more efficient bulbs.

For more information, please contact:
Jim Presswood
 (202) 289-2427
jpresswood@nrdc.org



www.nrdc.org/policy

© Natural Resources Defense Council

Oppose Efforts to Roll Back Light Bulb Efficiency Standards

STANDARDS WILL DELIVER WIDE RANGE OF ECONOMIC, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

According to analysis by the Natural Resources Defense Council, the light bulb efficiency standards when fully implemented will:

- Save each American household **\$100 to \$200 plus per year** in the form of lower electric bills.
- Reduce U.S. energy bills overall by **more than \$10 billion per year**.
- Achieve energy savings equivalent to **30 large power plants**.
- Avoid approximately **100 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) pollution per year**, which is equivalent to the emissions of more than 17 million cars.



A new, energy-efficient incandescent light bulb (left) looks similar to the outdated and inefficient incandescent light bulb (right).

STANDARDS WILL SPUR INNOVATION AND INVESTMENT

The light bulb efficiency standards have jump-started industry innovation and investment that is creating U.S. jobs. For example:

- Osram Sylvania has retooled its current St. Marys, Pennsylvania incandescent factory to produce new energy saving incandescent bulbs that will meet the standards.
- Several thousand U.S. jobs have been created by companies like Cree in North Carolina, Lighting Sciences Group Corp in Florida, and Philips Lighting (the world's biggest lighting company) to produce the next generation of efficient LED light bulbs.
- In 2011, TCP—one of the world's largest makers of CFLs—is opening a new factory in Ohio to help meet the new demand.
- GE recently invested \$60 million to create a Global Center of Excellence for linear fluorescent lamp manufacturing in Bucyrus, Ohio—an action that will double the number of jobs at that plant.

The light bulb efficiency standards will help bring light bulb technology from the days of the horse and buggy to the 21st Century, which will save consumers money, create jobs, and reduce pollution. Congress should reject efforts to repeal these standards.