August 21, 2020

The Honorable Daniel R. Simmons
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585–0121

Subject: Request to Extend the Public Comment Deadline
Docket No. EERE-2020-BT-TP-0002

Dear Assistant Secretary Simmons:


We respectfully request this extension based on the urgent need for more detailed feedback from the water utility community in particular about the significant impact that this rulemaking change will have on their water supply availability. This critical feedback is very challenging to obtain due to the short 30-day comment period, the changes in the workplace due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, and a further complicating factor of August vacation schedules. Since the passage of the Energy Policy Act in 1992, these standards have formed an important part of water and energy demand forecasting to accommodate future growth. There it is necessary to evaluate carefully how these changes will affect the availability and cost of the additional water supplies.

We believe that this proposed rulemaking is a critically important issue, one worthy of more careful consideration than would be possible in a 30-day comment period. We appreciate your consideration of our request. AWE looks forward to participating in this proceeding and the public meeting that will be held.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Dickinson
President and CEO
maryann@a4we.org

cc: John Cymbalsky, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, USDOE
    Elizabeth Kohl, Office of the General Counsel, USDOE