

# Standby Power in Televisions



The 4E Standby Power Annex provides policy-makers with information, tools and policies to combat energy being wasted by electronic equipment in low power modes. This briefing tracks the success of 4E Annex member governments and others in reducing the standby power consumed by televisions.

## Observations for Policy Makers

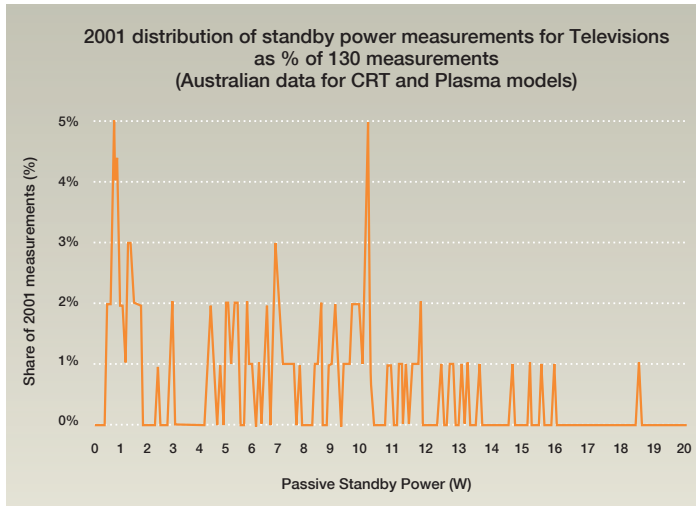
- **Television standby power consumption has reduced around the world**, demonstrating that government-lead global efficiency targets can be met by industry.
- **Governments, using bodies like 4E to consistently identify standby power as an issue of importance**, have influenced television product design.
- **Global television suppliers have responded positively** to the 1 watt standby target over the last decade.
- **Regulatory policies appear to deliver significant gains** more quickly than other policy measures.
- **Accurate data collection by government** has been important to demonstrate success.
- **Televisions are increasingly networked** within the home or to the internet, so networked connected standby is emerging as the next television power issue needing to be addressed.

## More Information

All publicly available documents produced by the Annex can be accessed on the Annex website at <http://standby.iea-4e.org>.

The Annex also produces a Newsletter providing regularly updates on international standby issues and events. Free subscription is available via the website which also provides links and news of other standby projects and international activities.

## Key Findings



### Televisions Wasting Energy

Through the 1990s, the IEA identified standby power as a risk to government-run energy efficiency programs for electronic equipment. Between 40-80% of standby power was wasted due to poor design or inappropriate overuse. For example, in 2001 passive standby power consumed by televisions in Australia varied from 0.5 watts to more than 18 watts when the television was not actually operating.

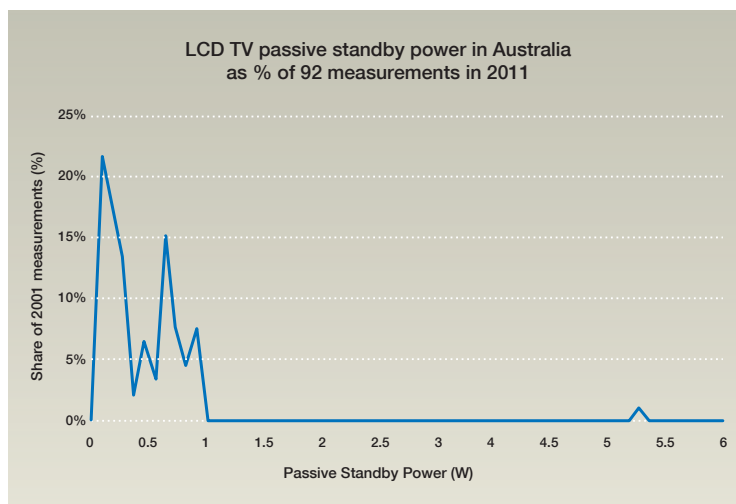
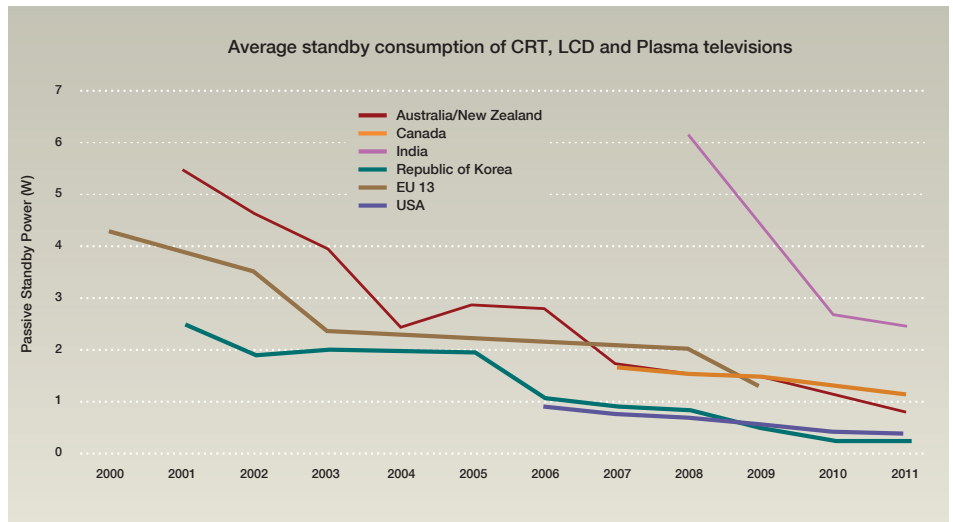
Since this time 4E member governments have collected standby power data, with more than a decade of measurements allowing the question to be posed: *Why should poorly designed*

*televisions continuing to waste energy be allowed to be sold?* Over time, consistent and concerted questioning of the global television industry by Governments has improved the standby power used by televisions.

### Reaching the 1 Watt Target

In almost all regions, television standby power consumption is reducing to meet the 1 Watt IEA goal. This is based on nearly 9,600 measurements collected in retail surveys from 6 countries or regions representing around 45% of 2011 global television sales.

The Republic of Korea has led the world in successful standby policy interventions, consistently showing average standby power levels between 20% and 50% lower than other countries, using mandatory not voluntary policies.



### Contracting Consumption

The standby performance of televisions has been consistently tracked and published in Australia for more than a decade. In 2009, Australia introduced a mandatory television efficiency program which included low power mode requirements, and the national market average is now well below 1W.

4E's special report '*Standby Trends for Televisions*' contains more detailed information and can be downloaded from the Annex website <http://standby.iea-4e.org>.