Measuring Success: Evaluation Methodology for Standby Power Policies





The Standby Power Annex provides government policy makers with information, reports and tools to combat the energy wasted by products in standby and other low power modes. This briefing highlights the 10 step approach to evaluating standby power policies developed by the Annex to encourage a better understanding of the elements that determine successful standby policies.

Observations for Policy Makers

- Policy Evaluation is essential in understanding the necessity, efficiency, validity and effect of standby initiatives and to improve the implementation and outcomes of any programme.
- The evaluation methodology developed by the Annex provides the tools required to comprehensively evaluate the impact of standby initiatives.
- The evaluation tool can be applied globally as it has enough flexibility to cater to the needs and requirements of a wide range of situations and budgets across different jurisdictions.
- Using a globally accepted methodology allows for comparisons of different policy initiatives and affords confidence and transparency, allowing evaluations to hold up to international scrutiny.

More Information

The full evaluation methodology report can be accessed from the Annex website. All publically available documents produced by the Annex can be accessed on the Annex website 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.

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The Aim of the 4E Evaluation Methodology

4E developed an evaluation methodology specific to standby power to encourage the use of a common evaluation approach by policy makers that is suitable for the unique elements of standby power policies. As a result, evaluations can be conducted with greater transparency and afforded international credibility, as well as providing opportunity for comparisons across programs and jurisdictions. Ultimately this will lead to better policy and greater energy savings in standby and other low power modes.





What's unique to Standby Power Policy Evaluation?

Evaluating the impact of standby power policies is complicated by the diversity of low power modes and the wide variety of products covered and therefore requires modes and products to be clearly and consistently classified and defined. Since energy wasted by individual appliances in standby power modes may be quite small, policy evaluation should not overstate the importance of low standby power above energy efficiency in other high consumption modes for a single product. Standby power evaluations also need to assume a "natural replacement" environment as it is unlikely that consumers will be motivated to bring forward a purchase, simply because standby power consumption has been improved, as individual product savings are too small.

Key features of the Standby Power Policy Evaluation Methodology

The ten-step 4E evaluation methodology has been designed so it can be used at all stages of programme development to determine the objective of a programme, provide the rationale and evaluate the impact after implementation. The methodology includes a set of options or tools that can be applied depending upon the type of programme being implemented and the level of rigour required by the user.

For each of the ten-steps, the methodology provides "a recommended base approach", which is deemed the most cost effective and most applicable to the types of programmes commonly implemented to tackle standby power. A variety of evaluation tools appropriate for each step are also described and identified so that the methodology can be adapted to the individual circumstance and financial capability of different jurisdictions and policy initiatives.

STEP 1	Identifying Products Categories and Types
STEP 2	Defining Product Power Modes to be included (idle standby off-mode network).
STEP 3	Determining the Quantity of Products Sold in a Market
STEP 4	Defining Baseline Energy Consumption
STEP 5	Defining Standby Policy Initiative (SPI) Scenario Energy Consumption
STEP 6	Calculating Gross Energy Savings
STEP 7	Estimating Savings over Product Life
STEP 8	Determining Attribution to the SPI
STEP 9	Evaluating Distortions Effects
STEP 10	Net Impact Evaluation

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