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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **AHAM AND EFFICIENCY ORGANIZATIONS CALL ON EPA AND DOE TO RECOGNIZE SMART APPLIANCES**

*DOE/FERC Report Calls For National Programs and Policies To Implement  
Demand-Response Capabilities*

WASHINGTON DC -- (July 6, 2011) Following today's release of a joint DOE/ FERC National Action Plan calling for a national forum to jump start the development of demand-response programs that could significantly reduce electricity usage during periods of high demand, the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) is urging DOE and the EPA to adopt a petition submitted to the ENERGY STAR program in December 2010 by AHAM, NRDC, and several efficiency and consumer organizations, coordinated by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), to recognize the benefits of smart appliances and hasten development of the smart grid.

The AHAM petition supports the Administration's smart grid goals, is widely supported, and is a no-cost measure that DOE and EPA can take on a national scale to recognize the benefits of demand response capable and smart home appliances.

The petition urges the ENERGY STAR program to incorporate a five percent allowance to the energy performance level required to meet ENERGY STAR eligibility criteria for smart-grid enabled appliances as soon as possible. The incorporation of this incentive for smart grid enabled appliances will increase the deployment of these energy saving products across the country.

"This petition recognizes the opportunity for smart appliances to contribute to energy efficiency and the smart grid. An allowance of five percent is an important incentive for manufacturers to produce smart appliances and the data show that smart grid enabled appliances can deliver a greater benefit to the American consumer than the five percent request," Joseph M. McGuire, AHAM President

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) estimates that the implementation of smart grid technologies could reduce electricity use by more than four percent annually by 2030.

A cost/benefit analysis by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) for the US Department of Energy (DOE) accompanied the petition, and determined that the annual benefits from having smart grid capabilities in an appliance are greater than the costs of an equivalent five percent increase in operational machine efficiencies.

Specifically, if a consumer chooses, a smart grid enabled appliance will be able to receive a signal from a utility and automatically adjust its operation to move its electricity use to a better and less expensive time of day. PNNL's analysis found that smart appliances can be a significant and cleaner alternative to today's "spinning reserves," which are power plants that are required to be "idling" and are a wasteful, but necessary, part of today's electrical grid.

Visit [www.aham.org/smartgrid](http://www.aham.org/smartgrid) to download the petition to the ENERGY STAR program, and for a link to the US DOE cost/ benefit analysis on smart grid enabled appliances.

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***The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) is a not-for-profit trade association representing manufacturers of major, portable and floor care home appliances and suppliers to the industry. AHAM is headquartered in Washington, DC. You can visit the AHAM website at <http://www.aham.org>.***