

Congress of the United States  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Small Business  
2561 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6515

June 22, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm:

The House Committee on Small Business writes to inquire about the recent proposed rule change to energy conservation standards for battery chargers. This rule would amend the energy conservation standards for four categories of battery chargers that are manufactured in, or imported into, the United States.<sup>1</sup> It would compel small businesses to redesign their products and incur the cost of retooling their production lines, increasing capital expenditures for impacted small businesses by up to 75 percent annually over the following two years.<sup>2</sup> It appears that Department of Energy may not have properly considered small entities during this rulemaking process.

It is important for agencies to analyze small businesses interests, which make up 99.9 percent of all businesses in the United States, when passing any new rule. America's small businesses deserve to have their voices heard and considered. We therefore request the following information as soon as possible but no later than July 6, 2023:

1. What are your statutory requirements to examine this rule's impact on small businesses?
2. How many small businesses will be impacted by this rule?
3. What additional compliance costs on small businesses are associated with this new rule?
4. Where can small businesses go to examine your analysis on the impacts this rule will have on their operations?
5. What alternatives have been considered to lessen the impacts on small businesses?

---

<sup>1</sup> Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Battery Chargers, 88 Fed. Reg. 16112 (2023) (to be codified at 10 CFR 430).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 16136.

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm

June 22, 2023

Page 2 of 2

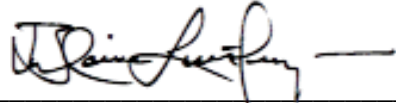
To schedule the delivery of your response or ask any related follow-up questions, please contact Committee on Small Business Majority Staff at (202) 225-5821. The Committee on Small Business has broad authority to investigate “problems of all types of small business” under House Rule X. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this inquiry.”

Sincerely,



---

Roger Williams  
Chairman  
Committee on Small Business



---

Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Vice Chairman  
Committee on Small Business

cc: The Honorable Nydia M. Velasquez, Ranking Member  
Committee on Small Business