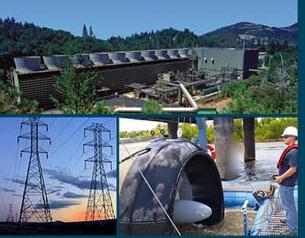
# **Overview of ASRAC Operations**

Committee Responsibilities and Interactions with DOE & Chartered Working Groups















Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

John Cymbalsky Designated Federal Officer, ASRAC

#### **DOE and ASRAC**

- ASRAC is an advisory committee charted by DOE
  - Parent Committee members are appointed by DOE
  - A Federal Register notice was published March 8, 2012 seeking nominations for the committee
  - Appointees were selected by DOE and appointed by Secretary of Energy
  - Membership limited to approximately 12 individuals with one spot reserved for DOE staff as required by the Negotiated Rulemaking Act
  - Staggered term limits of 1-3 years, but can be reappointed for one successive term
  - As needed, Federal Register notice will be published to solicit nominations for new members to fill vacancies
- ASRAC is solely advisory in nature, with focus on appliance standards rulemaking issues and solutions
- Committee tasks originate from discussion between DOE and ASRAC members, defining clear goals, timeframe for task completion, and target date for presenting the Committee's formal recommendations to DOE



#### **DOE and ASRAC**

- As needed, ASRAC will vote to form working groups to investigate each task in detail and gather additional input from stakeholders
  - In such cases where ASRAC votes to form a working group, DOE will publish a Federal Register notice soliciting nominations for members
  - Working group efforts are presented to ASRAC and ASRAC deliberates and forms recommendations to DOE (working groups never present recommendations directly to DOE)
- DOE may withdraw a task from ASRAC at any time
- In the event a consensus recommendation is not reached for a particular task within a given timeframe, ASRAC will let DOE know that no recommendations will be made and it is determined to withdraw task or give the working group more time
  - Without a consensus recommendation from the working group and affirmation from ASRAC, DOE will proceed with its "normal" rulemaking activities

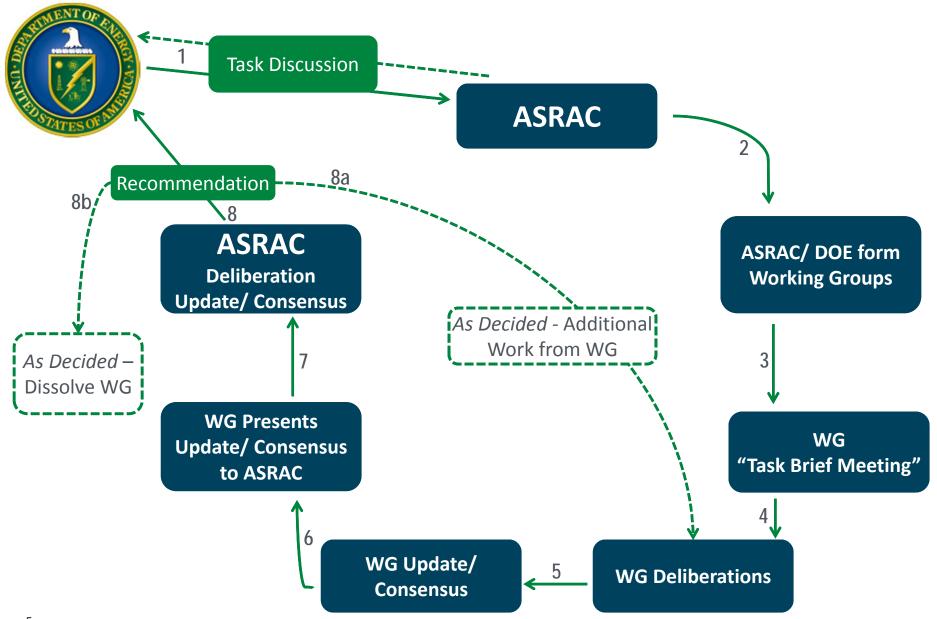


# **ASRAC's Scope of Activities**

- As a negotiated rulemaking federal advisory committee,
  ASRAC was chartered to <u>provide advice and recommendations</u> related to:
  - 1. Minimum efficiency standards for appliances and equipment,
  - 2. Test procedures,
  - 3. New product coverage,
  - 4. Certification, laboratory accreditation, and testing programs,
  - 5. Labeling for various appliances and equipment, and
  - 6. Specific issues of concern to DOE, as requested.
- ASRAC efforts are expected to expedite the Appliance Standards Program's rulemaking activities and yield better decisions by moving from a contentious rulemaking process to a consensus model

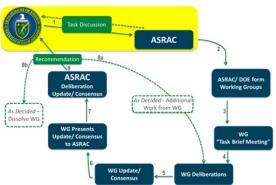


### **ASRAC's Process Flow**



# **ASRAC Process: Tasking Discussion**

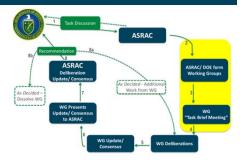
- At a public meeting, ASRAC discusses identified tasks and may identify additional tasks (with input/discussion from DOE and the public) and votes on whether to accept or reject a task
- For accepted tasks, DOE and ASRAC establish clear goals, timeframe for task completion/ deliverables, and target date for presenting ASRAC's formal recommendations to DOE
- ASRAC members will be asked to volunteer to serve on working groups based on expertise and interest
  - In instances where there are no volunteers,
    ASRAC members will be asked to nominate a fellow member and bring to a vote.



Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

#### **ASRAC Process: WG Formation**

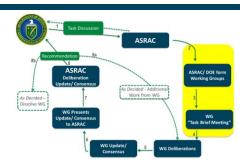
- After tasking is finalized, DOE will publish a Federal Register notice that:
  - 1. Announces the task taken on by ASRAC,
  - 2. Solicits nominations for the Working Group, and
  - 3. Establishes expected time commitment requirements for WG members
- Depending on established task deadlines, nominations may be accepted for up to one month.
- ASRAC will conduct the initial screening to select members for the working group.
  - Membership for working groups is <u>limited to 25 members</u>, this includes the required seats for <u>at least</u> one full Committee representative and one for DOE's representative.
- Once the recommendations are finalized, DOE will have the opportunity to review and amend working group membership, as necessary.
- Once formed, the DOE and ASRAC representatives for the working group will select a working group chair.





# **ASRAC Process: WG "Task Brief Meeting"**

 Once a working group is finalized, DOE will publish a notice of open meeting in the Federal Register that announces the first meeting ("Task Brief Meeting")

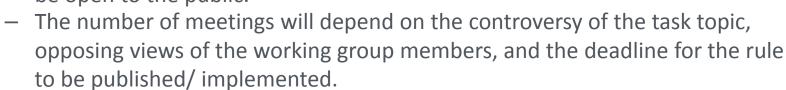


Renewable Energy

- At the task brief meeting:
  - 1. DOE and the ASRAC representative outline the expectations of the working group as a negotiated rulemaking effort (if applicable)
  - 2. DOE and the ASRAC representative clearly outline the task at hand
    - Provide full details of any preliminary work that has been done towards the objective and identify any deliverable deadlines (e.g., status update) and expected task completion date.
  - Working group members reaffirm their commitment to the task and develop a work plan
- Work plan is emailed to ASRAC members as courtesy and chance to comment
  - ASRAC members will have a finite amount of time to comment
  - Comments will be considered at the working groups next meeting and the work plan will be finalized

#### **ASRAC Process: WG Deliberations**

- After establishing a work plan, working groups will meet as necessary to accomplish set goals
  - Meetings will be announced in the Federal Register and will be open to the public.



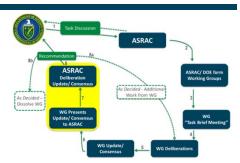
- Working groups will operate <u>by consensus</u>
  - Once the working group has reached a consensus (or decided the inability to reach consensus) about its recommendation, it will draft a report for distribution to the full Committee and will notify the ASRAC chair(s).
    - The report will be posted to the appropriate docket and will be sent to ASRAC members
    - The working group chair will present the recommendations and efforts of the working group at the next full Committee meeting.

Renewable Energy

In instances there is a ASRAC meeting before consensus can be reached, working groups will be asked to provide an update to ASRAC regarding their efforts.

#### **ASRAC Process: ASRAC Deliberation on WG Efforts**

- Working group chair will present any updates or their final consensus determination to ASRAC.
  - For updates (or instances a determination has been made that the working group cannot achieve consensus), the working group chair will present current majority and minority views towards the working group's efforts to ASRAC.



- Based on the working group's update, ASRAC will deliberate and:
  - 1. Give additional time allowance for a given task, decide to have the working group give the task further consideration or focus on specific issue raised by the Committee.
  - 2. Vote to accept the working groups recommendation <u>without change</u> and form recommendation to DOE with majority and minority views.
  - 3. Notify DOE that no recommendation can be made on particular task and give associated rationale:
    - a. Working group cannot achieve consensus or
    - b. ASRAC is not able to reach majority consensus to submit working group's recommendation without change.



# **How Can I Participate?**

- There are a number of ways stakeholders can get involved:
  - Nominate yourself for consideration to participate as a voting member on ASRAC (when seats are available).
  - 2. Nominate yourself for consideration to participate as a voting member of a working group.
  - 3. Attend ASRAC meetings or working group meetings as a constituent to voting members and participate in caucuses.
  - 4. Attend ASRAC meetings or working group meetings and participate as member of the public.
  - 5. Anyone can submit written comments or questions to <u>asrac@ee.doe.gov</u>.



## **Questions**

#### http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance standards/asrac.html

# John Cymbalsky, ASRAC Designated Federal Officer asrac@ee.doe.gov



#### February 26, 2013 DOCKET

http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=EERE-2013-BT-NOC-0005

