



February 8, 2012

Mr. Dominic Mancini  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget  
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Mancini:

We want to thank you and your colleagues from OMB, CEA, CEQ and DOE again for meeting with us to discuss proposed efficiency standards for battery chargers (Docket Number EERE 2008-BT-STD-0005, RIN 1904-AB57). Attached is an outline of the points we discussed today. To reiterate:

- Schumacher supports efforts to increase the efficiency of battery chargers. We are prepared to innovate and invest to ensure that we continue to provide our customers with reliable, cost-effective and energy efficient products.
- However, as the result of a past patent dispute settlement, we will not be able to offer competitive battery chargers with “engine start” capability until the expiration of the patent in question in 2022. It is highly likely that any new standard for such products prior to that date will result in a monopoly being granted to a single company and would greatly threaten our business.
- We urge you to consider accurate usage data when evaluating our line of products. Several of the usage factors cited by DOE in the past vastly overstate the usage rate of our products – and thus vastly overstate potential energy savings.
- It is critical that any standard be set to begin after an adequate period of time for us to re-engineer our many products and bring the new, more efficiency models to market. We will make that investment, but a compliance period beginning before 2017 is highly problematic.
- It is also critical that the DOE set a single national standard.
- To make matters worse, California’s proposed rule not only fails to accommodate our unique patent issue, but the compliance deadline of February 2013 is completely unworkable and will divert efforts of companies to plan and make the

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investments to meet a subsequent DOE standard. We hope that DOE's standards for battery chargers will keep with the spirit of President Obama's regulatory reform efforts and eliminate industry burden in complying with balkanized state and national standards by preempting California's standard. We believe that anything the Administration could do to help industry avoid unreasonable compliance deadlines for state standards that are likely to be preempted would likewise be keeping with the President's goal of reducing unnecessary regulatory burdens.

We stand ready to work productively with the Administration in support of its objectives and we look forward to continuing dialogue. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Waldron".

John Waldron  
President

Enclosure: Memorandum for OIRA