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**From:** Jones, Enesta [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=65B8E6C6E5CA4A7A9AE85D98A4C8EEDB-EJONES02]  
**Sent:** 5/1/2018 2:11:42 PM  
**To:** Maria Masters [Ex. 6]  
**CC:** Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]  
**Subject:** Re: Energy Star Inquiry

Maria,

**On background:**

**1. We mentioned that, "In general, electricity demand peaks...when people get home from work." Do you happen to know what time that might be, in general? For example, 5:00 to 7:00 pm, as a general range?**

See answer to #2 below for added context.

**2. Is it better to do the laundry \*before\* people get home from work and after people leave from work? So would that be something like, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, when many people leave the house for work?**

Peak demand differs by geography, season, day of week, hour of the day, and generation mix. Your local utility is the best source of information on when conditions peak and whether there are pricing plans you can benefit from if you use less energy during peak periods.

If peak pricing plans or other forms of rewards exist (with lower rates during non-peak hours or rebates for lowering energy use during peak periods), they are tailored to local peak condition.

If you want to make a general statement that would apply to most utilities and most times of year you could say that after 9 pm and before 9 am are off peak.

**3. By doing laundry at off-peak hours, is there any kind of estimate of money that people could save, assuming they have a relatively new washing machine/dryer?**

While most states have a few utilities that offer time based rates, most time based rates for residential customers are optional and enrollment has been limited thus far. (**Source:** EIA Form 861 Detailed Data ([original data](#)); includes customers enrolled in one of the following pricing programs: Real time, Time of Use, Variable Peak, Critical Peak, Critical Rebate Pricing)

If your utility does not offer time based rates or if they do and you don't enroll, then you won't experience direct energy savings based on the time of day that you use energy. You can however still do your part by reducing energy use when local peak conditions exist.

On Apr 29, 2018, at 5:04 PM, Maria Masters [Ex. 6] wrote:

Hi Enesta,

This is Maria, from HGTV magazine again. My editors just had a few quick follow up questions for you:

**1. We mentioned that, "In general, electricity demand peaks...when people get home from work." Do you happen to know what time that might be, in general? For example, 5:00 to 7:00 pm, as a general range?**

**2. Is it better to do the laundry \*before\* people get home from work and after people leave from work? So would that be something like, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, when many people leave the house for work?**

3. By doing laundry at off-peak hours, is there any kind of estimate of money that people could save, assuming they have a relatively new washing machine/dryer?

Thanks again--if it's possible to get these answers by Monday or Tuesday, that would be great.

Thanks,  
Maria

On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 1:59 PM, Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)> wrote:

Please attribute to get agency. Not a spokesperson/direct attribution.

On Apr 17, 2018, at 1:58 PM, Maria Masters <Ex. 6> wrote:

Is there a particular person at the agency I can attribute this to? So sorry--I'm just wondering if I'll be able to use it if it doesn't come from a specific person. (But I can try and see what my editor says!)

Thanks for all your time!

On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 1:56 PM, Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)> wrote:

No. Please attribute to the agency.

On Apr 17, 2018, at 1:54 PM, Maria Masters <Ex. 6> wrote:

Hi Enesta,

Thank you SO much for this. This is all fantastic--quick question: Can I attribute this information to you, as a spokesperson for Energy Star?

Thank you!  
Maria

On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 1:34 PM, Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)> wrote:

Maria,

**On background:**

**Did you Know?**

The average American family washes about 300 loads of laundry each year. It's estimated that 76 million households have top-loading clothes washers with agitators – 25 million of which are at least 10 years old – costing consumers about \$2.9 billion each year in energy and water. (**Source: Department of Energy**)

### **Is there a best time to do a load of laundry? (If so, why?)**

- The best time to do your laundry is when overall electricity demand is low. By not using electricity during peak times of demand, you can have a beneficial impact on utility rates over time because it helps avoid the need for your utility to ramp up an additional power plant or to buy more expensive power from the market.
- In general, electricity demand peaks when weather gets hotter or colder than normal and the demand for air conditioning or heating is at its highest and when people get home from work. Additionally, heat from clothes drying can make your air conditioner run longer to remove excess heat and humidity from your home.
- Some utility companies add demand charges during peak times or offer mandatory or voluntary time-based rates. While time-based rates for residential customers are not widespread, that could be changing. Your local utility company is the best source of information for rates and peak demand times, which vary due to local climate and generation mix. For example, areas of the country that have a high penetration of solar energy may peak as the sun goes down and people return home from work. In cold climates that rely heavily on natural gas both directly for heating and to run peak electric generators, winter demand may be a bigger issue.

### **Is there a way to decrease the energy used when doing a load of laundry?**

#### **Decrease energy when doing a load of laundry by doing the following:**

- **Consider an ENERGY STAR certified washer and dryer pair.**
  - A full-size electric dryer that has earned the ENERGY STAR saves \$200 in energy bills over the life of the product.
  - An ENERGY STAR certified washer/dryer pair will save even more energy and money while doing your laundry.
  - Clothes washers that have earned the ENERGY STAR incorporate advanced technology and functionality to get significantly more water out of your clothes in its final spin cycle than a conventional model making it easier for clothing to dry in an ENERGY STAR certified dryer using less heat. Less heat means energy savings and reduced wear and tear on your clothes caused by over-drying.
- **Saving with clothes washers**
  - *Use cold water wash* - Wash your laundry with cold water whenever possible. Many households can successfully do laundry almost exclusively with cold water. Cold water laundry detergents are widely available. If you have an older clothes washer and switch to just cold-water washing, you can save about 584 kWh (\$66) annually if you have an electric water heater and 27 therms (\$29) if you have a gas water heater.

- *Wash full loads* - Many washers sold today have electronic controls that automatically adjust the water level to the size load. If you have an older clothes washer without these controls, wash full loads whenever possible. Or, if you must wash a partial load, select a lower water level setting.

- **Saving with clothes dryers**

- *Use sensor drying.* Use sensor drying instead of timed drying. ENERGY STAR certified dryer models incorporate advanced moisture sensors to help you reduce your dryer's energy use. This feature ensures that your dryer will automatically shut off when clothes are dry.
- *Use less energy with a longer drying cycle on a low heat setting.* The informational materials shipped with the product should indicate which cycle, if any, was tested for ENERGY STAR certification and how the dryer's other cycles or settings may use more or less energy.

### What other tips can help reduce energy when doing a load of laundry?

- **Consider an ENERGY STAR certified clothes washer if you're purchasing a new one.**

- New ENERGY STAR certified clothes washers use advanced technology to reduce water use. Full-sized washers that have earned the ENERGY STAR use 13 gallons of water per load, compared to the 23 gallons used by a standard machine.
- Front-load and advanced top-load clothes washers:
  - Use sophisticated wash systems to gently flip and spin clothes through a reduced stream of water, lengthening the life of often-washed items.
  - Offer more usable space in the washer for laundry — especially larger items like comforters. More capacity means fewer loads of laundry each week.

- **Consider load size of your laundry.**

- Drying **too large** of a load will cause it to take longer to dry. The drum needs to be large enough to allow a full load from the washer to tumble freely, with enough space left over for hot air to circulate.
- Drying **too small** of a load can cause problems, too. Drying a single towel for 30 minutes will cost about as much as drying a full load for the same time. Smaller loads can take longer to dry without benefit of the tumbling effect of a full load.
- It is a bit easier if you are buying both a matching washer and dryer - manufacturers normally design these pairs to work together with the same sized load.
- It will cost you \$75 per year to dry your clothes with a new full size, electric ENERGY STAR certified clothes dryer. If you have a standard electric clothes dryer that is more than 10 years old, it's costing you, on average, \$100.

- **One more thing!**

<image002.jpg>**Beware of high efficiency claims** associated with the HE label. This designation is intended to match certain washer types (e.g. front load) with specially designed laundry detergent. There are no standards for energy efficiency behind it. Only products that have earned the ENERGY STAR are independently certified to save energy.

**Note:**

**All information – except as noted – is sourced from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.**

**From:** Maria Masters [Ex. 6]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 1:57 AM  
**To:** Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Energy Star Inquiry

Hi Enesta,

Sorry to bother you again! Just wanted to check in and see if you happened to have a response yet!

Thank you again for working on this!

Best,  
Maria

On Fri, Apr 13, 2018 at 3:59 PM, Maria Masters [Ex. 6] wrote:

Thank you so much!

On Fri, Apr 13, 2018 at 3:52 PM, Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Maria, we are working to meet your deadline of April 17, at 4 p.m. I'll be in touch with the agency's responses.

Thanks,  
Enesta