

# Comments on Draft IEA-BEE Report on “Energy Efficiency for Economic Recovery: A Discussion Paper”

---

February, 2021



## About AEEE

Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), is one of the leading organizations in India that works on creating awareness about energy efficiency as a resource. It is a policy advocacy and energy efficiency market enabler with a not-for-profit motive. We advocate for data-driven and evidence-based energy efficiency policies and research.

We foster a culture of energy efficiency in India, working with industry, government and civil society organizations. AEEE advocates for *Thermal Comfort for All*, and a *Lean-Mean-Green* philosophy to design and construct net-zero energy-water-waste built environments, Sustainable Transportation and robust Energy Data Framework for better policy-making and implementation, to build a culture of energy efficiency in India. We are committed to achieve India's energy transition for a climate-resilient and energy secure future and meet India's commitments to the 2030 nationally determined goals (NDC) and UN sustainable development goals (SDG).

The IEA and BEE have come up with the draft report titled “Energy Efficiency for Economic Recovery: A Discussion Paper”. AEEE welcomes this initiative as is a much-required effort in the current scenario. The document identifies measures for enhancing energy efficiency in different sectors including industry, buildings, appliances and transport to support the economic recovery. We are providing our inputs that can have a positive impact on the economic recovery measures.

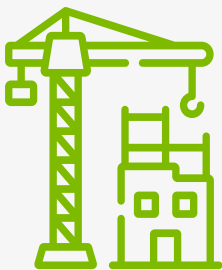
## Comments and Suggestions

We understand that to accelerate energy efficiency for economic recovery would require bold and innovative actions that go beyond business-as-usual interventions. The focus should be on the short-term measures that can fast track the pace of growth in achieving economic situation of pre-COVID era. Hence, the immediate priority would be to extend the fiscal support to different sectors for economic recovery.



### Industry and SME

1. The fiscal support and strategic decisions are required from the Government for accelerating deployment for cross cutting EE technologies, IoT and industry 4.0 in the small and medium industries for long term energy efficiency benefits.
2. Introducing the standard and labelling program for standard industrial equipment's like motors, compressors, boilers, pumps, chilling machines etc. for informed purchased decisions.
3. A possible PAT like program for small and medium industries for purchase of higher efficiency equipment, beyond a fixed investment level per annum. This could begin in the pilot phase on a voluntary basis, including issuing ESCerts for overachievers.
4. Demonstration for new technologies like IoT, smart energy management systems, and data analytics solutions for reducing energy wastage, it will also have a significant impact on changing user's behavior, informed purchase decisions and planning retrofits.



### Building and Construction

1. The recovery from pandemic requires fiscal support and strategic decisions from Government in accelerating deployment of LED lights, BLDC ceiling fans, and low carbon building materials, low energy cooling technologies across affordable housing projects to lock-in energy efficiency for long term gains.
2. Undertaking energy efficiency retrofits through ESCO route in the Public sector & Government buildings through policy advisory for initiating ESCO tenders. BEE could issue a policy advisory to all ministries and departments, and PSUs for taking the ESCO route for EE implementation. The financial instruments created under BEE's Energy Efficiency Financing Platform (EEFP) requires customization for uptake by consumers and ESCOs. The energy efficiency benchmarks for existing buildings including hospitals, hotels, offices, IT parks, data centers etc. should be updated periodically.

3. Incorporating low carbon materials and technologies in the state public works departments – schedule of rates (SOR), procurement guidelines including tender documents and technical specifications is important from market commercialization.
4. Providing trainings will not work alone, it is suggested to start certification courses for building designers and engineers in design of low-carbon building constructions and use of life cycle analysis tools.



## Appliances

1. Continuously upgrading minimum energy performance standards for the household appliances to bring in appliances with higher efficiencies as well as further widening the coverage of mandatory appliances.
2. Enabling policy decisions for procurement of minimum 5-star appliances in all government buildings and facilities both at Central and State level. Making most efficient technologies as a default practice just as LED has become a default technology for lighting. Similarly, BLDC motor for ceiling fans, and inverter compressor for air-conditioning system should be the norms for procurement. This integrated with bulk procurement model can bring down the cost of these EE appliances for the consumers.
3. There should be financial incentives for retailers who push the most EE appliances. It could be in terms of partial tax refund at the end of the year, based on targets achieved.
4. As more ICT equipment are used in the home, the EE standards become more important from the stand-by power perspective. There should be EE standards on standby power for some of the commonly used equipment.



## Transport

1. In order to create viable charging business and maximize the utilization of chargers, the site selection for charging facilities is critical. The sites should be such that they are able to attract good amount of vehicle traffic. As land cost is a significant factor, Public Private Partnerships with Urban Local Bodies could be helpful. Hence more efforts on charging demand aggregation can help stimulate investment and generate jobs in transport.
2. The pandemic has increased the need for personal/private transport. Hence it makes logical sense to influence consumer decision making for new purchases/leases and nudge them towards electric vehicles. Initiatives from AEEE such as Green Vehicle Rating is helpful in this regard.
3. Specialized EV charging equipment manufacturing is also an option for India to create jobs. The Indian EV market is dominated by two and three wheelers which do not conform to any International charging standards/protocols. There is an opportunity to leapfrog for the electrical and electronics equipment manufacturers to create economic and smart products that can help India to become a manufacturing hub.
4. The last mile infrastructure also includes shared electric vehicles such as low speed e-bikes and e-rickshaws. As commercial activities are returning to normal, all electric options should be explored.



Office Address:

37 Link Road, Ground Floor, Lajpat Nagar III,  
New Delhi-110024, T: +91-11-41235600  
E: [INFO@AEEE.IN](mailto:INFO@AEEE.IN) W: [WWW.AEEE.IN](http://WWW.AEEE.IN)