

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

BILL FOR THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT AND LIGHTING PRODUCTS (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. OF 2025

Explanatory Note

This Bill amends the Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances, Equipment and Lighting Products Act No. 24 of 2016 (“the Act”).

While the enforcement of the Act has been effective, with strict compliance and monitoring mechanisms in place, there is a need to expand its scope to include additional provisions to enhance long-term energy security. The amendments will encourage greater adoption of sustainable energy practices and promote best practices in energy efficiency and conservation nationwide.

This Bill provides for the following:

- changes the title of the Act to “Energy Efficiency Enhancement Act”; and
- promotes energy audit and green building best practices to achieve improved outcomes for energy end users; and
- phases out incandescent lamps and compact fluorescent lamps and requires the adoption of LED lighting standards; and
- empowers the Regulator to issue directions or guidelines to government institutions and commercial buildings to regulate the default temperature setting of air conditioners at 24° Celsius for buildings and offices.

**Minister of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology and Geo-Hazards, Energy,
Environment and Disaster Management**



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**BILL FOR THE
ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF ELECTRICAL
APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT AND LIGHTING
PRODUCTS (AMENDMENT)
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An Act to amend the Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances, Equipment and Lighting Products Act No. 24 of 2016.

Be it enacted by the President and Parliament as follows-

1 Amendment

The Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances, Equipment and Lighting Products Act No. 24 of 2016 is amended as set out in the Schedule.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on the day on which it is published in the Gazette.

SCHEDULE

AMENDMENTS OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT AND LIGHTING PRODUCTS ACT NO. 24 OF 2016

1 Title of the Act

Delete “Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances, Equipment and Lighting Products”, substitute “Energy Efficiency Enhancement”

2 Long title

Repeal the title, substitute “An Act to provide for the promotion of energy efficiency, the efficient use and conservation of energy, the establishment of minimum energy performance standards, and the testing, the labelling and the registration of electrical appliances, equipment, and lighting products, and for related purposes.”

3 Paragraph 2(f)

Delete “.”, substitute “; and

- (g) provide a mechanism for the testing of products to ensure that only genuine products that meet energy efficiency standards are imported into, or manufactured in, Vanuatu; and
- (h) promote and regulate energy audits and green building initiatives; and
- (i) strengthen the institutional framework, capacity development, and training for the effective implementation of energy efficiency initiatives.”

4 Subsection 3(5)

Delete “subparagraph (2)(b)(ii)”, substitute “subparagraph (1)(b)(ii)”

5 Paragraph 13(g)

Repeal the paragraph, substitute

- “(g) to review, revise, and expand the scope of minimum energy performance standards at least once every 5 years; and
- (h) to prepare terms of reference for a third-party testing laboratory to carry out check testing of products, in accordance with the product schedule, to ensure that products meet the minimum energy performance standards claimed by the manufacturer or supplier; and

SCHEDULE
AMENDMENTS OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT
AND LIGHTING PRODUCTS ACT NO. 24 OF 2016

- (i) to review and approve check testing reports; and
- (j) to promote innovative financing mechanisms for energy efficiency projects; and
- (k) to provide financial assistance to institutions for activities that promote the efficient use and conservation of energy; and
- (l) to identify and advise the Minister on introduce fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to promote energy efficiency; and
- (m) to maintain a list of accredited energy auditors, energy audit companies, and energy service companies, as prescribed by Regulation; and
- (n) to develop educational curriculum on the efficient use and conservation of energy for educational institutions, boards, universities, or autonomous bodies, and to coordinate with them to include such curriculum in their syllabus; and
- (o) to raise awareness and disseminate information on the efficient use and conservation of energy; and
- (p) to develop and maintain an appliance energy savings calculator or other decision-support tools to assist consumers in making informed purchasing decisions; and
- (q) to set a timetable for phasing out incandescent, halogen, and compact fluorescent lamps, including provisions for exemptions, safe disposal; and
- (r) to advise the Minister on the need for regulations and amendments from time to time; and
- (s) such other functions as may be conferred on the Regulator by this Act or any other Act.”

6 Paragraph 14(2)(c)

Delete “.”, substitute “;

- (d) to prescribe guidelines for energy conservation building codes, including:
 - (i) measures for the efficient use and conservation of energy in buildings or building complexes;
 - (ii) modifications to building codes to reflect regional and local climatic conditions;
- (e) to require every owner or occupier of a commercial building complex classified as a designated consumer to comply with the energy conservation building codes and any amendments to those codes;
- (f) to require any designated consumer referred to in paragraph (e) to conduct an energy audit of the relevant building through an accredited energy auditor, energy audit firm, or energy service company, in accordance with the procedures and time intervals as prescribed by Regulation;
- (g) to require all government, institutional, and commercial buildings to procure only energy-efficient appliances bearing a 5-star energy label or its equivalent, in accordance with standards issued under this Act;
- (h) to direct all owners or developers of new government, institutional, commercial, or residential buildings to incorporate green building principles during the planning and design stages;
- (i) to direct electricity distribution companies to undertake mandatory energy audits and periodic energy accounting, to be carried out by an accredited energy audit firm or energy service company, in the manner and frequency prescribed by Regulation;
- (j) to direct all government, institutional, and commercial buildings to maintain the default air conditioning temperature setting at 24° Celsius, or such other setting as prescribed by Regulation;
- (k) to organise and facilitate the training of technical personnel and specialists in energy efficiency practices and energy conservation techniques;
- (l) to designate any agency as a designated agency to coordinate, implement, monitor, and enforce the provisions of this Act.”

7 Paragraph 24(1)(b)

After “assaults,” insert “insults,”

8 At the end of section 26

Add

- “(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Regulation may prescribe matters relating to all or any of the following:
- (a) the fees or charges to be paid for the purpose of this Act or the Regulations;
 - (b) the qualifications, criteria, and conditions under which a person may be accredited as an energy auditor, and the procedure for such accreditation;
 - (c) the manner and intervals at which the energy audit is to be conducted;
 - (d) the certification procedures for the designation or appointment of energy auditors by designated consumers.”