

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 (Purpose)

The purpose of this Act is to contribute to the sound development of the national economy by taking appropriate measures for the rationalization of energy consumption in factories, buildings, machinery and equipment, and other necessary measures to promote the rationalization of energy consumption comprehensively with the aim of ensuring efficient use of fuel resources according to the energy-related economic and social environments at home and abroad.

Article 2 (Definitions)

1. In this Act, the term “energy” means fuel and heat or electricity generated by using it as a heat source (except those kinds of electricity, used in place of the electricity generated by converting the power obtained by converting the heat produced with fuel as a heat source, which are specified by Cabinet Order; the same applies hereinbelow).
2. In this Act, the term “fuel” means crude oil, gasoline, heavy oil, petroleum products as specified by a Ministry of International Trade and Industry (M.I.T.I.) Ordinance, inflammable natural gas, coal, coke, and coal products as specified by a M.I.T.I. Ordinance, which are used for combustion purposes.

CHAPTER I-2
BASIC POLICY, ETC.

Article 3 (Basic policy)

1. The Minister of International Trade and Industry (I.T.I.) shall lay down and officially announce a basic policy for the rationalization of energy consumption (hereinafter referred to as “the basic policy”) from the standpoint of promoting comprehensively the rationalization of energy consumption in factories or places of business (hereinafter referred to simply as “factories”), buildings, machinery and equipment, etc.

2. The basic policy shall stipulate basic matters relating to measures to be taken by consumers of energy for the rationalization of energy consumption, basic matters relating to measures to promote the rationalization of energy consumption, and all other matters relating to the rationalization of energy consumption, taking into account long-range energy supply and demand projections, technical levels of rationalizing energy consumption, and all other circumstances.

3. In laying down the basic policy, the Minister of I.T.I. shall ask for Cabinet decision.

4. In laying down the basic policy, the Minister of I.T.I. shall consult in advance with the Minister of Construction about the items related to the construction, maintenance and preservation of buildings and with the Minister of Transport about the items related to the energy efficiency of motor vehicles.

5. The Minister of I.T.I. shall amend the basic policy if necessary because of changes in the circumstances mentioned in Paragraph 2.

6. The provisions of Paragraphs 1 through 4 shall apply mutatis mutandis to cases where the basic policy has to be amended under the provision of the preceding Paragraph.

Article 3-2 (Efforts to be made by consumers of energy)

Every consumer of energy shall make efforts to rationalize energy consumption, paying regard to the provisions of the basic policy.

CHAPTER II**MEASURES RELATED TO FACTORIES**

— omitted —

CHAPTER III**MEASURES RELATED TO BUILDINGS**

— omitted —

CHAPTER IV**MEASURES RELATED TO MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT****Article 17** (Efforts to be made by manufacturers, etc.)

Every person engaged in the business of manufacturing or importing energy-consuming machinery or equipment (hereinafter referred to as “manufacturers, etc.”) shall make efforts, paying regard to the provisions of the basic policy, to contribute to the rationalization of energy consumption, related to machinery and equipment, by improving the energy efficiency of the machinery and equipment they manufacture or import.

Article 18 (Guidelines for manufacturers, etc.)

1. With regard to specific energy-consuming machinery and equipment (hereinafter referred to as the “designated equipment”) such as motor vehicles (only those specified by a Cabinet Order as especially required to be improved in the energy efficiency specified in the preceding Article; the same applies hereinbelow) and other machinery and equipment being in use in great quantities in Japan and consuming considerable amounts of energy in their operations, which are specified by a Cabinet Order as especially required to be improved in the energy efficiency, the Minister of I.T.I. (in the case of motor vehicles: the Minister of I.T.I. and the Minister of Transport; the same applies hereinbelow in this Chapter and Paragraph 5 of Article 25) shall lay down and officially announce guidelines for each category of the designated equipment which set forth criteria for the improvement of the energy efficiency by manufacturers, etc.
2. The guidelines which set forth criteria, prescribed in the preceding Paragraph, shall be laid down, taking into account the energy efficiency of the

designated equipment which is most excellent in the energy efficiency specified in the preceding Article, the prospects for technical development of the designated equipment, and all other circumstances, and shall be amended as required according to changes in these circumstances.

Article 19 (Recommendations and orders pertaining to improvement of energy efficiency)

1. When the Minister of I.T.I. deems that the designated equipment manufactured or imported by such manufacturers, etc. — who meet the requirements stipulated by a Cabinet Order in terms of the production or import volume of the designated equipment they manufacture or import — is required to be improved to a considerable degree in the energy efficiency specified in Article 17, in the light of the guidelines prescribed in Paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, he may recommend the manufacturers, etc., concerned to improve the energy efficiency of the designated equipment they manufacture or import, indicating targets therefor.

2. When the manufacturers, etc., given the recommendation prescribed in the preceding Paragraph have not followed it, the Minister of I.T.I. may officially announce this fact.

3. When the Minister of I.T.I. deems that the rationalization of energy consumption related to the designated equipment concerned is much obstructed because the manufacturers, etc., given the recommendation prescribed in Paragraph 1 have not taken measures required by the recommendation without good reason, he may order them to take the required measures, paying regard to the opinion of a council provided by Cabinet Order.

Article 20 (Indication)

With regard to the designated equipment (except home appliances specified in Item (1), Paragraph 1, Article 2 of the Methods of Quality Indication for Home Appliances (Law No. 104 of 1962); the same applies hereinbelow in this Article and the succeeding Article), the Minister of I.T.I. shall lay down and officially announce the following for each category of the designated equipment:

- (1) Items to be indicated by manufacturers, etc., concerning the energy efficiency of the designated equipment (a numerical value determined as the energy efficiency of the designated equipment according to a M.I.T.I. Ordinance (in the case of motor vehicles: a M.I.T.I. Ordinance and a Ministry of Transport Ordinance; the same applies hereinbelow));