

# Incandescent Bulbs

## Sustainability Snapshot



### Product Description

Any lighting device (bulb) where the light is generated by passing a current through a wire suspended in an inert gas such as argon or neon. Includes, but is not limited to, incandescent light bulbs and halogen lamps. Does not include lamps, leds, or fluorescent light bulbs.

### Mission

The mission of The Sustainability Consortium (TSC) is to improve the sustainability of products when they are made, purchased, and used, with a focus on manufacturers and the retail buyers who decide what products to carry in stores. The information in this document is drawn from our detailed research on known and potential social and environmental impacts across product life cycles. TSC acknowledges that other issues exist, but we have included here those that are most relevant to the decision making of retail buying teams and manufacturers. The topics are listed alphabetically for ease of reading; the order does not represent prioritization or other criteria.



#### Consumers

##### Product Efficiency

Lighting uses significant amounts of electricity over its lifespan, after it is purchased. Manufacturers can help consumers reduce energy consumption by designing lamps that use energy-saving technologies and communicating how to select more energy-efficient lamps.



#### Use of Resources

##### Packaging

Packaging design should be optimized to ensure that packaging performs its essential functions of containment and protection while minimizing use of materials, energy resources, and environmental impacts across the life cycle of the packaged product. Under-packaging and over-packaging can both lead to increased impacts. These impacts may be mitigated by using more energy-efficient manufacturing, creating packaging materials from renewable resources, designing packaging to be recyclable, and encouraging consumer recycling.



#### Workers and Communities

##### Conflict Minerals

Incandescent lamps may contain minerals, including gold and ores of tantalum, tin, and tungsten, that are mined in places where groups responsible for human rights abuses control and profit from mining operations. Manufacturers should ensure that materials in their products are sourced responsibly and are not from these areas, and should try to help improve stability and quality of life for miners and their communities.