

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

June 5, 2013

Dear ENERGY STAR® Residential Dishwasher Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share with you the final Version 5.2 ENERGY STAR Residential Dishwasher Specification and provide important updates regarding a future Version 6.0 specification development process.

**Version 5.2**

Due to new minimum efficiency standards that align with the existing ENERGY STAR requirements for compact units, EPA is taking steps to transition the label off of these products until new requirements for compact dishwashers can be established that more effectively differentiate energy efficient compact dishwashers from conventional models. The Agency sought comment on the proposed transition schedule and received limited comment that raised no issues. The Agency is finalizing the Version 5.2 with no further changes. To summarize, the Version 5.2 changes include:

- Compact dishwasher certified to ENERGY STAR Version 5.1 or Version 5.2 prior to July 29, 2013 would remain qualified through December 31, 2013. After this date, all compact models would be removed from the qualified product list and could no longer be promoted as ENERGY STAR. As part of the transition for compact dishwashers, EPA will instruct that Certification Bodies (CB) stop certifying new compact dishwashers to ENERGY STAR as of July 29, 2013.
- EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) have updated Section 1 to include definitions of a compact dishwasher and a standard dishwasher from 10 CFT 430 Subpart B Appendix C1, consistent with the Version 5.1 requirement that dishwashers certified beginning May 30, 2013 be tested using Appendix C1.

**Version 6.0**

As discussed in the May 2013 communication to dishwasher stakeholders, EPA is planning to initiate a Version 6.0 specification development process later this year.

The Association for Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM), some of its members and DOE are conducting a round-robin test using the ENERGY STAR Final Draft Test Method for Determining Cleaning Performance to further understand sources of variability in the cleaning performance test and to gather additional data on different scoring methodologies. DOE and EPA are working with the appliance industry on this round-robin and as a result, have decided to postpone finalizing the ENERGY STAR Test Method for Determining Cleaning Performance until this additional testing is completed in September and the results have been considered by DOE.

Despite this schedule change, EPA considers a near term specification change to be important in light of the amended Federal standards that are only modestly less stringent than those in the current Version 5.2 ENERGY STAR specification. EPA is planning to launch a Version 6.0 specification development effort in July or August to revise the ENERGY STAR dishwasher energy and water criteria. The Agency

anticipates that this revision will include a cleaning performance reporting requirement for the Version 6.0 specification in lieu of a minimum requirement. Establishing a minimum cleaning performance requirement will be deferred for consideration as part of a future specification revision, using a dataset of ENERGY STAR dishwashers' energy use, water use and cleaning performance. In light of the addition of the round robin test and work on scoring methodologies, EPA is no longer planning to assemble a dataset of dishwasher models' cleaning performance at this time.

EPA anticipates completing this Version 6.0 specification development effort in early 2014, at which time compact dishwashers meeting the new final requirements would be re-eligible for qualification.

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA and stakeholders is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. Please direct any questions regarding the Version 5.2 specification or plans for Version 6.0 specification development to Amanda Stevens, EPA, at [Stevens.Amanda@epa.gov](mailto:Stevens.Amanda@epa.gov) or (202) 343-9106 or Ryan Fogle, D&R International, at [rfogle@drintl.com](mailto:rfogle@drintl.com) or (301) 588-9387. Stakeholders with questions related to the test methods for ENERGY STAR dishwashers should contact Ashley Armstrong ,DOE, [Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov). Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Stevens".

Amanda Stevens, Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR Dishwashers