



April 29, 2002

Dear Furnace Manufacturer:

In the coming months, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be reviewing the current ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> specification for furnaces to assess its impact in the marketplace.

In order to ensure that the ENERGY STAR label continues to expand the market for energy-efficient products and accelerate the market penetration of energy-efficient technologies, ENERGY STAR specifications must be evaluated and revised, as appropriate. As you may know, the current specification for ENERGY STAR qualified furnaces has been in place since April 1995. Preliminary research is now being conducted to determine the specification's continued relevance in the marketplace. This research includes collecting information on the following:

- Market penetration of ENERGY STAR labeled furnaces
- Updates to current industry contacts
- New and existing technologies in the marketplace (e.g., variable speed motors)
- Industry challenges and new market trends

As an ENERGY STAR partner, your input is very valuable during the specification review process. If you have any questions or comments or have information to contribute, please contact Rebecca Miller, of ICF Consulting, at [rmiller@icfconsulting.com](mailto:rmiller@icfconsulting.com). We have also been in contact with the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA) and will continue to consult with them throughout this process.

Furthermore, if you would like to meet with ENERGY STAR representatives to discuss the specification revision process or to talk about your products, please contact Rebecca Miller at [rmiller@icfconsulting.com](mailto:rmiller@icfconsulting.com) to confirm schedules and make the appropriate arrangements.

As always, the revision of this and all ENERGY STAR specifications is an open process and we welcome and appreciate your input. Depending on the results of our preliminary research, it may be appropriate to convene a meeting of interested parties to elicit feedback and foster discussion. We will contact you again in the near future to provide an update regarding EPA's plans. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me at [schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov](mailto:schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov) if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel Schmeltz".

Rachel Schmeltz  
ENERGY STAR Product Development

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