



February 21, 2003

Dear Energy Star Room Air Conditioner Stakeholder:

The Department of Energy has discussed with room air conditioner (RAC) industry stakeholders the potential expansion of the ENERGY STAR® program for this product. The Department is presenting a proposal to expand the ENERGY STAR RAC qualifying criteria to include through-the-wall (TTW) RACs, without heating, for review and comment. The proposal meets our objectives of increasing energy savings, exceeding code requirements, and offering a consumer-friendly approach to selecting high-performance RACs.

Currently, the ENERGY STAR RAC criteria includes only louvered RACs, without heating, with the qualifying level set at 10% above the current federal minimum energy efficiency ratios (EERs). The Department proposes to expand the criteria to include TTW RACs, without heating, at the same 10% above federal minimum level. For details on the criteria expansion, please see the enclosed analysis.

Please provide your comments by March 21, 2003. You are welcome to send them electronically to richardh.karney@ee.doe.gov or by fax at 202-586-4617. Comments received will be posted for stakeholder information at:

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=prod_development.roomac_spec

The Department anticipates reviewing the comments and issuing the final criteria in early April for an effective date of May 1, 2003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard H. Karney".

Richard H. Karney, P.E.
ENERGY STAR Program Manager