



April 16, 2003

Dear ENERGY STAR Room Air Conditioner Stakeholder:

The Department of Energy reviewed comments from room air conditioner (RAC) industry stakeholders on the potential ENERGY STAR[®] criteria expansion adding non-louvered Through-The-Wall (TTW)/non-heating product classes. The comments received indicated positive interest in adding these product classes and also adding the casement product classes (non-heating). Stakeholders further commented the proposed May 1, 2003, effective date did not allow adequate time for manufacturing or inventory buildup. Finally, there is industry interest in the addition of RAC with reverse cycle to the ENERGY STAR RAC criteria.

The Department will add the non louvered/non-heating and casement/non-heating product classes to the ENERGY STAR RAC criteria effective October 1, 2003. The delayed effective date will allow time for stakeholders to adjust to the expanded criteria. The Department will analyze the potential of RACs with reverse cycle, but will not add these product classes at this time.

In summary, the new, expanded ENERGY STAR RAC criteria now includes louvered and non-louvered RACs without reverse cycle (or any heating) and casement RACs without heating with the qualifying level being 10% above the current federal minimum energy efficiency ratios (EERs) per NAECA.

To learn more about the ENERGY STAR RAC criteria expansion, click this link:
http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=revisions.roomac_spec

Sincerely,

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