



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

March 8, 2006

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Partners and Stakeholders:

The U.S. Department of Energy (the Department) is ready to proceed with new ENERGY STAR criteria for dishwashers. After conducting working group meetings in the summer of 2005, the Department provided, on December 20, 2005, the proposed criteria for public review and comment. After evaluation and consideration of all comments, the Department has determined that the criteria for dishwashers will be finalized as proposed. Therefore, effective January 1, 2007, the ENERGY STAR qualification criteria will be:

- Standard-size dishwashers: a minimum Energy Factor (EF) of 0.65
- Compact dishwashers: a minimum EF of 0.88

Several issues were raised throughout the criteria setting process. Several stakeholders suggested that the criteria be expanded to include water efficiency, product performance, and standby power. Although these issues are not included in the 2007 criteria, they will be discussed by the ENERGY STAR Dishwasher Working Group and reevaluated during the next criteria revision. The first working group conference call will be held in April 2006. If you are interested in participating in the working group, please send your contact information to Mr. Josh Butzbaugh at jbutzbaugh@drintl.com by March 31, 2006.

As mentioned in the December 20, 2005, letter, the Department will work with partners and stakeholders to support promotions and disseminate consumer education materials urging consumers to use their dishwasher instead of hand washing their dishes. The Department will support promotions encouraging consumers to refrain from pre-washing their dishes by hand. The goal of these consumer education initiatives is to increase consumer awareness on energy and water conservation.

On behalf of the Department, I would like to thank all stakeholders for the assistance provided during this criteria-setting process.

Sincerely,

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

Richard H. Karney, P.E.
ENERGY STAR Products Manager
Building Technologies Program
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy