

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

April 25, 2011

Dear ENERGY STAR® Dishwasher Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share with you the final Version 5.0 ENERGY STAR Dishwasher Product Specification. EPA would like to acknowledge the ENERGY STAR stakeholders who have invested time and effort over the past several months to ensure the successful completion of the Version 5.0 specification. This letter lays out the Agency's final decisions regarding these new requirements and outlines the schedule for qualifying products using these new requirements.

Effective Dates

The Version 5.0 specification will take effect on January 20, 2012. These new requirements allow a maximum energy use of 295 kWh/year and 4.25 gallons per cycle for standard models, and a maximum energy use of 222 kWh/year and 3.50 gallons of water per cycle for compact models.

In response to stakeholder feedback EPA has included a new, later effective date for Tier 2 of January 1, 2014. In providing more time than was previously proposed, EPA is seeking to balance what it anticipates will be a fairly quick market response to the 2012 levels, with the time needed to develop a viable cleaning performance test. If the market does not respond to the 2012 levels as quickly as anticipated, and ENERGY STAR remains an effective differentiator of efficient dishwashers at those levels, they will be retained in Tier 2, with the addition of a cleaning performance requirement. EPA will set Tier 2 levels through the typical stakeholder process, finalizing them with sufficient lead time for transition purposes. (Note: Once established, the Tier 2 levels will be incorporated in and released as a Version 6.0 Dishwasher specification.)

Minor Edits & Clarifications

As part of this final specification, EPA has made explicit reference to Department of Energy (DOE) sampling procedures for purposes of qualification testing. This added language formalizes our current practice, which is to allow manufacturers the option to demonstrate qualification based on a single test or leverage testing performed for purposes of minimum efficiency standards.

Ongoing Work to Support Tier 2

To support EPA's development of a Tier 2 cleaning performance requirement, DOE will take the lead on developing a test procedure for dishwasher cleaning ability and intends to work with industry on its development.

EPA will continue its ongoing work with stakeholders on how best to address and encourage smart grid functionality as part of the ENERGY STAR residential dishwasher specification, with an eye towards potentially adopting incentives as progress on this work allows. EPA encourages partners and other interested stakeholders to share information in support of this, including key features and functionality of interest, the consumer benefit that could be associated with such functionality, how savings should be measured and verified, and any price differential for a product with such functionality.

### Deployment Timeline

EPA shares its Partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification version to the next, with the objective of meeting consumer expectations that ENERGY STAR labeled products fully meet the latest requirements in effect upon their date of manufacture. With this in mind and consistent with its approach for other product categories, EPA has established the following timeline for residential dishwashers:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 5.0 requirements.
- After September 20, 2011, CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to Version 4.1. Note, however, that existing certifications to Version 4.1 will remain valid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until January 20, 2012.
- As of January 20, 2012 any product shipped with an ENERGY STAR label must meet Version 5.0 requirements. All certifications of products to the Version 4.1 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification and CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 5.0 to EPA.

### Third-Party Certification

As a reminder, as of January 1, 2011 all new products must be certified by an EPA-recognized CB before being labeled and marketed as ENERGY STAR. Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the partner that the product is ENERGY STAR qualified and will submit qualified product data to EPA for listing on the ENERGY STAR website. For more information on the Third-Party Certification program please visit: [www.energystar.gov/3rdpartycert](http://www.energystar.gov/3rdpartycert)

EPA thanks shareholders who provided feedback during this specification revision process and looks forward to working with you as you qualify and market your efficient dishwashers. Please direct any specific questions to Amanda Stevens at EPA, [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.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

Amanda Stevens  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
ENERGY STAR Appliance Program