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March 25, 2004

Andrew Fanara
US EPA
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
MC 6202J
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Proposed ENERGY STAR Clarification to Bottled Water Cooler Specification

Dear Mr. Fanara:

GE Consumer & Industrial, a partner in the ENERGY STAR program for bottle water coolers, is please to support the proposal to include in the program bottled water coolers with refrigerated compartments.

GE has been a participant in the bottled water cooler program since 2002. Since that time GE has doubled the number of models that are ENERGY STAR-qualified and is today one of the largest U.S. marketers of ENERGY STAR-qualified products. We were especially proud to be selected as the 2004 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year for consumer products.

GE urges the EPA and DOE to implement the revised specification as soon as possible to clarify that models containing refrigerated compartments can participate in the program. This is a growing market segment and expansion of the program will reward manufactures, such as GE, which have invested in improving the energy efficiency of such models.

Please contact me if you need any additional information.

Yours truly,