

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

September 13, 2011

Dear Clothes Dryer Manufacturer or Other Interested Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to announce that Heat Pump Clothes Dryers has been chosen as one of the ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Emerging Technology 2012 Award categories. According to EPA's preliminary estimates, these advanced clothes dryer technologies could reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 32 – 34% when compared with standard electric models.

Launched in 2011, the ENERGY STAR Emerging Technology Award raises the profile of innovative technologies that may not yet meet key principles associated with the ENERGY STAR program (e.g. widely available, cost-effective), but have the potential to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emission once they are more widely adopted. As products in these categories become more mainstream, the categories may become candidates for ENERGY STAR specification development.

In developing the award criteria for heat pump clothes dryers, EPA is looking for industry stakeholder feedback on the attached draft requirements **by October 10, 2011**. These proposed requirements are based on a review of the California Energy Commission database and the U.S. Department of Energy Residential Clothes Dryer and Room Air Conditioners 2011 Direct Final Rule Technical Support Document, as well as initial discussions with several clothes dryer manufacturers.

### **Overview of Emerging Technology Award**

The Emerging Technology Award recognizes innovative products that have the potential to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions but face certain barriers to U.S. market entry or acceptance. The Award seeks to:

- Accelerate market adoption of emerging technologies with potential to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Move energy-saving technologies closer to ENERGY STAR readiness;
- Help companies offering advanced technologies that protect the climate find the right customers; and
- Help environmentally-motivated and technologically-advanced consumers find the technologies they want to proactively reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Technologies receiving the Award are:

- Featured on the ENERGY STAR website and in marketing materials. Manufacturers will have access to an ENERGY STAR Award logo to promote accomplishments in product literature, marketing materials, and press releases.
- Promoted by EPA through its existing ENERGY STAR networks (i.e., access to 17,000 partners in dozens of sectors) to educate, inform, and recruit interested parties. EPA is uniquely positioned to help match award winners with partners interested in emerging efficient technologies, including utilities and retailers.

In addition to heat pump clothes dryers, EPA reviewed dozens of potential technologies that were nominated by stakeholders this year, and we anticipate completing another solicitation during the first quarter of next year. EPA is currently promoting its 2011 Award winning Micro-Combined Heat and Power (micro-CHP) technologies. The Agency anticipates extending micro-CHP as a second award category in 2012. For more information please visit the website at [www.energystar.gov/emergingtech](http://www.energystar.gov/emergingtech).

### **Comment Submittal**

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the proposed requirements to [emergingtech@energystar.gov](mailto:emergingtech@energystar.gov) by **October 10, 2011**. In response to comments, EPA will revise and finalize the eligibility criteria, which we anticipate completing in late October. Once released, manufacturers with technologies that meet the eligibility requirements may begin submitting the necessary documentation for EPA review. Winners of the Award will be announced in early 2012.

Thank you for your interest in and support of the ENERGY STAR Emerging Technology Award. If you have any questions about the program please contact me at (202) 343-9408 or [banwell.peter@epa.gov](mailto:banwell.peter@epa.gov).

Sincerely,



Peter Banwell  
EPA Marketing Manager