

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



**OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION**

February 19, 2024

Dear ENERGY STAR® Laboratory Grade Refrigerator and Freezer Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing the [Draft 2, Version 2 ENERGY STAR Laboratory Grade Refrigerators and Freezers specification](#). The deadline to submit comments on this draft specification is March 19, 2024.

In response to the Draft 1, Version 2.0 proposal, EPA received numerous comments regarding the criteria. The Agency has taken that feedback into account in developing the Draft 2 proposal and has referred to the comments received and responded to them through the Draft 2 specification. In particular, the Agency assessed the need to further segment the High Performance Refrigerator and Freezer markets based on door type and defrost type. In addition, the ultra-low temperature freezer category was split into two bins to reflect differences in energy consumption of those products. EPA is also proposing energy allowances for High Performance products that certify to NSF 456. In reaching the criteria levels proposed in Draft 2, EPA reviewed all available data sources where products were tested to the ENERGY STAR test method to allow for an appropriate comparison of products. The updated [data set](#) that reflects new data has been released with this draft. EPA continued to look to differentiate the market and based on the feedback received from Draft 1 believes that this proposal differentiates the top performers in the market while maintaining a good selection of eligible products for purchasers. Finally, EPA notes that there was interest in expanding the scope of this specification to include combination refrigerator/freezers and cryogenic freezers. However, as of this time, the Agency has no data with which to determine criteria and therefore has continued to exclude these products from scope.

Comment Submittal

Comments on the Version 2.0 Draft Specification may be submitted to labgraderefrigeration@energystar.gov by March 19, 2024. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development website unless the submitter requests otherwise. Stakeholder comments, previous draft specifications, and related materials are available on the [ENERGY STAR Laboratory Grade Refrigerators and Freezers Specification Development webpage](#).

Stakeholder Webinar

EPA will host a webinar to answer any questions on this Draft 2, Version 2.0 specification on March 7, 2024, from 1-3 pm Eastern Time. Please register [here](#) if you plan on attending.

Please contact me at (202) 343-9153 or Fogle.Ryan@epa.gov, or Annie Williams at (703) 217-3853 or Annie.Williams@icf.com with questions. For test method questions, please contact Bryan Berringer, Department of Energy, at Bryan.Berringer@ee.doe.gov, or 202-586-0371.

Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR Program.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ryan Fogle". The signature is cursive and fluid.

Ryan Fogle

EPA Manager, ENERGY STAR for Medical Products

Enclosures

[Draft 2, Version 2.0 Specification](#)

[Data Set](#)