

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

November 17, 2015

Dear Laboratory Grade Refrigerator and Freezer Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Draft 2 Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR[®] Laboratory Grade Refrigerator and Freezer specification. Comments on this document are due no later than **December 18, 2015**. EPA will host a webinar on **December 7, 2015**. Details are included at the close of this letter.

The attached Draft 2 proposal builds on ideas presented in the Draft 1 Specification. EPA's rationale for these proposals is provided in note boxes throughout the specification. With this Draft 2 specification, EPA seeks to: 1) update stakeholders on the proposed scope of coverage for lab grade refrigeration and freezer equipment; and 2) present proposed energy efficiency criteria for the refrigerator and freezer categories, based on a Maximum Daily Energy Consumption (MDEC) metric.

EPA is not proposing efficiency levels for ultra low temperature (ULT) freezers at this time. In response to the December 2014/January 2015 data call, EPA received data on a few ULT models. EPA thanks submitting manufacturers for this data. Unfortunately, there is still not enough ULT data to effectively differentiate higher efficiency models. As a result, EPA is proposing to leave ULT products out of the scope of the Version 1.0 specification, but welcomes data to help inform future revisions.

EPA developed the proposed lab grade refrigerator and freezer levels using the EPA dataset for products, updated to reflect only models still available on the market. The proposed levels and consideration of energy saving approaches are discussed in the accompanying Draft 2, and would enable representation across a range of refrigerator and freezer volumes and defrost strategies, while maintaining a straightforward approach based on the performance data received.

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the proposals presented in this document, as well as any general comments, to labgraderefrigeration@energystar.gov by **December 18, 2015**.

EPA invites stakeholders to participate in a web meeting to discuss the Draft 2 specification on **December 7, 2015 from 1-2:30 PM Eastern Time**. Stakeholders interested in participating in this can register [here](#).

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. Your input is very valuable during this specification development process. All EPA correspondence and specification documents will be posted throughout the specification development process to the ENERGY STAR Laboratory Grade Refrigerator and Freezer Specification Development webpage at www.energystar.gov/newspecs.

Please feel free to contact Melissa Fiffer at (202) 343-9464 and Fiffer.Melissa@epa.gov or John Clinger, ICF International, at John.Clinger@icfi.com, or 215-967-9407. Please direct any questions on the test method to Bryan Berringer, DOE, at Bryan.Berringer@ee.doe.gov, or 202-586-0371.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Fiffer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melissa" being more prominent than the last name "Fiffer".

Melissa Fiffer,
ENERGY STAR Product Manager
Laboratory Grade Refrigerators and Freezers