March 30, 2015

Dear ENERGY STAR® Residential Dishwasher Brand Owner or Other Interested Party:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is sharing the Final Draft, Version 6.0 ENERGY STAR Residential Dishwasher Product Specification. EPA would like to acknowledge the ENERGY STAR stakeholders who have invested time and effort over the last many months to contribute feedback that has informed this specification development process. This specification will take effect January 29, 2016.

Final Draft Highlights
The Final Draft reflects input received from stakeholders in response to the Supplemental Proposal, the Draft 2 specification, and individual discussions with a range of stakeholders. The Final Draft maintains the previously proposed efficiency criteria. Standard residential ENERGY STAR dishwashers would use 12% less energy and 25% less water than those just meeting the minimum federal efficiency standards. Compact ENERGY STAR dishwashers would use 9% less energy and 11% less water than those just meeting the minimum federal efficiency standards.

In the Final Draft, EPA continues to strongly encourage cleaning performance reporting using the ENERGY STAR Test Method for Determining Residential Dishwasher Cleaning Performance. The data collected as part of this effort will not be made public to consumers or other third parties. Brand owners are encouraged to work with their EPA-recognized certification body to submit this data at the time of certification. Alternatively, brand owners may elect to submit the cleaning performance data, in conjunction with model information on energy and water consumption, directly to the ENERGY STAR program via appliances@energystar.gov.

In response to stakeholder comments received on the demand response criteria contained within the optional connected criteria proposed in Section 5.G of the Draft 2 specification, EPA distributed a Supplemental Proposal for comment on December 19, 2014. With this proposal, EPA provided clarity on the scope of the demand response criteria and proposed amendments to the temporary appliance load reduction (TALR) criteria harmonizing with clothes washers, refining the sanitization cycle exemption, and removing the TALR response delay. Stakeholder comments were supportive of the Supplemental Proposal amendments and clarifications, which have been incorporated into the Final Draft specification without additional modification. The demand response criteria approach will offer manufacturers flexibility in developing products capable of providing enhanced functionality to consumers, as well as potential benefits to the grid.

Comment Submittal
Final comments may be sent to appliances@energystar.gov no later than April 13, 2015. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development website unless the submitter requests otherwise. EPA intends to finalize this specification in April 2015 with an effective date of January 29, 2016. As with other product categories, residential dishwashers will be eligible for certification any time after the specification is final.
Please direct any specific questions to Melissa Fiffer, EPA, at  fiffer.melissa@epa.gov,  202-343-9494,  or Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at sarah.medepalli@icfi.com,  202-677-5201.  Dishwasher test method questions should be directed to Ashley Armstrong, DOE, at Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov or 202-586-6590.  Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,

Melissa Fiffer, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR Appliances