

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

April 6, 2017

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

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to amend the ENERGY STAR® Laboratory Grade Refrigerator and Freezer specification to enable ultra-low temperature freezers (ULTs) to earn the ENERGY STAR. EPA would like to acknowledge the stakeholders who have invested time and effort to contribute feedback and data that is enabling EPA to address energy efficiency in ULTs. These changes will be incorporated in a Version 1.1 specification. Products previously certified per the current performance requirements under Version 1.0 will not be affected.

The proposed changes bring ULTs into scope and outline a daily energy requirement for all ULT products. EPA developed this requirement based on a recently received batch of energy performance data for ULTs, which was generated using the finalized [ENERGY STAR Laboratory Grade Refrigerators and Freezers Test Method](#).

In addition, in recognition of ongoing technology advancements in refrigeration products broadly, such as those earning the 2017 EPA ENERGY STAR Emerging Technology Award for Solid-State Refrigeration, in Version 1.1 EPA has clarified that products that operate without a compressor are within scope.

**Comment Submittal**

Any comments may be sent to [labgraderefrigeration@energystar.gov](mailto:labgraderefrigeration@energystar.gov) no later than April 26, 2017. EPA intends to finalize this revision in May 2017. EPA will host a webinar to discuss the proposed Version 1.1 revisions on April 12, 2017 from 1 – 2:30pm Eastern Time. You can register for the webinar [here](#).

Please feel free to contact Melissa Fiffer at (202) 343-9464 and [Fiffer.Melissa@epa.gov](mailto:Fiffer.Melissa@epa.gov) or John Clinger, ICF International, at [John.Clinger@icfi.com](mailto: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](mailto: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".

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