



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

October 23, 2019

Dear ENERGY STAR® Partners and other Stakeholders:

As indicated in communications specific to the ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020 criteria development, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awaited the availability of dehumidifier data in terms of the IEF metric to form the basis of proposed dehumidifier recognition criteria. EPA is now pleased to share [proposed recognition criteria for Dehumidifiers](#) for ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020. Stakeholders are invited to provide written comments on these criteria no later than **November 22, 2019** to MostEfficient@energystar.gov.

ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019

Dehumidifiers have been eligible for Most Efficient recognition since 2018. ENERGY STAR Most Efficient enjoys robust utility support and is leveraged by over 30 energy efficiency program sponsors, serving almost 13 million households (or roughly 30 million consumers).

ENERGY STAR Most Efficient is also being leveraged for retailer incentives as part of the ENERGY STAR Retail Products Platform (ESRPP), an innovative, nationally coordinated, market transformation initiative. ENERGY STAR certified models in limited product categories (including dehumidifiers) are promoted by program sponsor-labeled signage in stores. ESRPP retailers now represent more than 70% of the appliance market, accounting for more than 1,000 stores in current program sponsors' service areas. Going forward, the ESRPP is striving for large-scale market participation – serving more than 30% of the US population – a key milestone in the ESRPP vision to transform the market for energy efficient consumer products.

EPA has also made progress in arming consumers with the information they need about recognized products. In addition to highlighting ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019 products, our website includes images of models, as well as real-time information on retail pricing and where to locate and buy these models. This information is currently available for clothes washers, dryers, dishwashers, monitors, refrigerators, and ventilating fans found at select major retailers. In order to continue to access pricing data from the Amazon API, EPA is completing significant upgrades to our underlying structure for pulling the information. We expect to have that in place by the end of the fall, at which point we will again display prices for dehumidifiers, ceiling fans, and TVs.

ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020 Proposed Dehumidifier Recognition Criteria

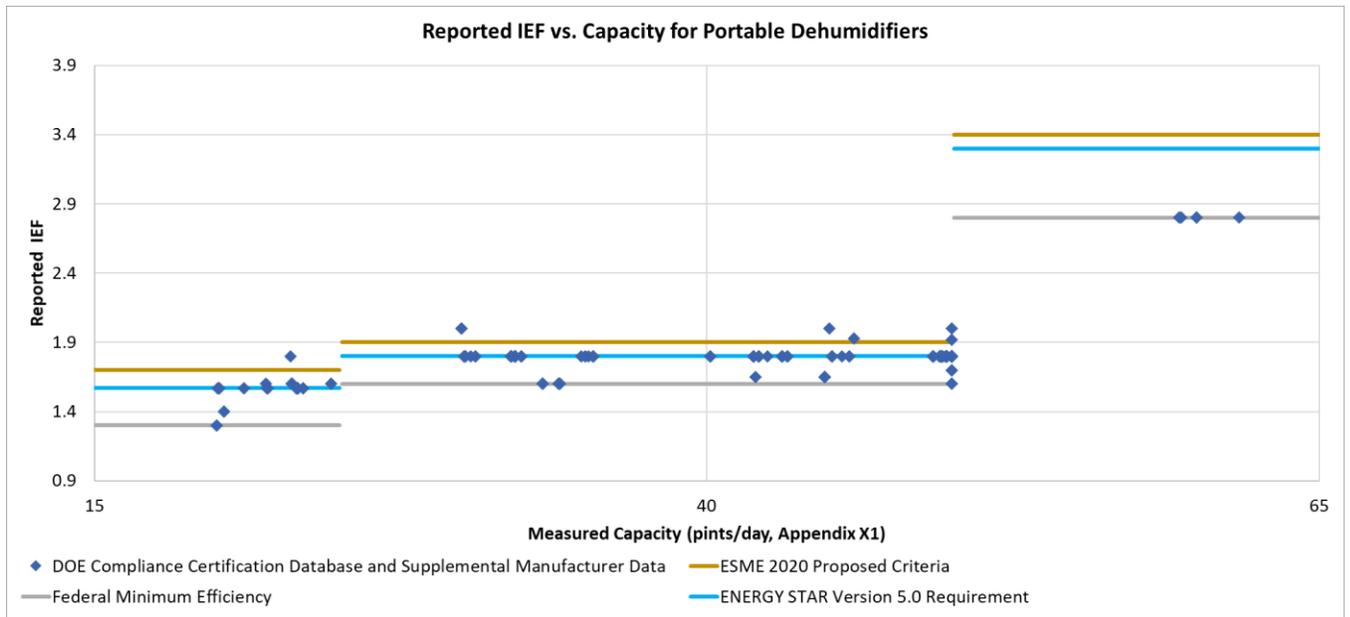
EPA is proposing revisions to the criteria for dehumidifiers in response to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) recent updates to the federal minimum standards for dehumidifiers, which include a new efficiency metric and test method, and in response to the completion of the ENERGY STAR Version 5.0 specification in early 2019. The 2019 ENERGY STAR Most Efficient criteria for dehumidifiers offered two options for assessing eligibility – one using the previous efficiency metric (Efficiency Factor, EF) and test method (which is no longer relevant), and the other using the new efficiency metric (Integrated Efficiency Factor, IEF) and test method. The ESME 2019 IEF criteria were set at a level that has since become effective for ENERGY STAR certification under the Version 5.0 specification. Thus, the Most Efficient criteria require an update for 2020 to identify the “best of the best” products on the market.

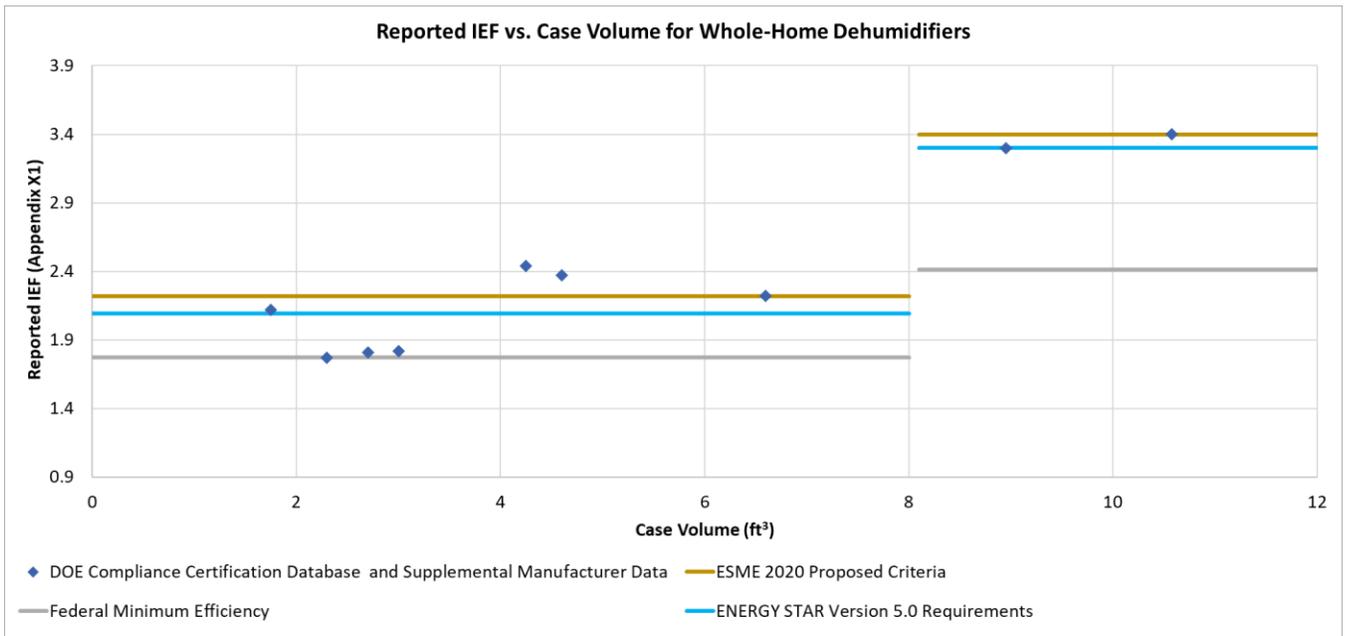
For ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020, EPA is proposing to recognize portable and whole-home dehumidifiers that are 19% and 23% above the federal minimum efficiency standards, respectively:

Type, Size	Integrated Energy Factor	Weighted Average Savings (Relative to Federal Minimum)
Portable, capacity \leq 25.00 pints/day	\geq 1.70	100 kWh/year
Portable, capacity 25.01 to 50.00 pints/day	\geq 1.90	
Portable, capacity $>$ 50.00 pints/day	\geq 3.40	
Whole Home, case volume \leq 8.0 ft ³	\geq 2.22	177 kWh/year
Whole Home, case volume $>$ 8.0 ft ³	\geq 3.40	

Although data is still limited for some product categories, an analysis of certified ENERGY STAR models and models listed on DOE’s compliance certification database, in conjunction with a review of the engineering analysis DOE conducts for covered products, provided a sufficient basis for EPA’s proposal.

In lieu of a webinar, EPA is sharing the graphs below to provide additional context regarding the basis of this proposal. Data for the graphs below was retrieved from the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Compliance Certification Database for Dehumidifiers and includes limited additional data provided by manufacturers for models not yet represented in the database.





According to EPA's analysis, 11 models from 9 ENERGY STAR brand owners meet the proposed criteria. EPA expects this will grow over time as the market continues to adjust to the new DOE standards and new metrics. In the large portable category where no data were available, EPA followed the same practice as for ENERGY STAR Dehumidifiers Version 5.0 and set a level equivalent to that for large whole home units. Several manufacturers have mentioned they may bring new technology to the US market soon which is expected to meet this level.

EPA welcomes stakeholder feedback on this proposal provided no later than **November 22, 2019** to MostEfficient@energystar.gov.

Please contact Ga-Young Park, 202-564-1085 or park.ga-young@epa.gov, or Théo Keeley-LeClaire, 571-373-5471 or theo.keeley-leclaire@icf.com with questions. For questions about the DOE test method, contact Bryan Berringer at DOE, bryan.berringer@ee.doe.gov or 202-586-0371.

Thank you for your support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,

Ann Bailey, Director
ENERGY STAR Product Labeling