August 18, 2016,

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 3 Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR® Laboratory Grade Refrigerator and Freezer specification.

In response to stakeholder feedback, EPA is proposing new definitions as well as revised efficiency criteria for high performance and general purpose laboratory grade refrigerators and freezers. EPA is seeking input on the proposed general purpose definition to ensure there is sufficient clarity between lab grade products and other types of refrigeration equipment such as commercial refrigeration. EPA is also proposing that lab grade refrigerators and freezers designed to store blood and plasma products be eligible to earn the ENERGY STAR given the new sub-category for high performance products.

While EPA is not proposing efficiency levels for ultra low temperature freezers at this time, EPA intends to add eligibility for these products in a forthcoming revision, once data from the My Green Lab/Food Service Technology Center testing effort becomes available later this year. EPA thanks manufacturers for participating in this data collection effort.

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the proposals presented in this document to labgraderefrigeration@energystar.gov by September 16, 2016.

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,

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