September 30, 2015

Dear ENERGY STAR Appliance Partners and Other Stakeholders,

It has been a busy and productive year for ENERGY STAR appliances, with specification revisions completed across a number of product categories, and the addition of a brand new category for clothes dryers. Your participation, expertise and innovation have been key to our efforts to continually recognize the most energy and water saving products across each of these categories. As we look ahead to the ENERGY STAR Products Partner Meeting, and to future years of ENERGY STAR appliance specification development, the timing is ripe for a facilitated dialogue with all of you – partners including appliance retailers, manufacturers and utilities – to roadmap the future of ENERGY STAR for appliances and chart ways we can work even better together.

We would like to invite you to The Road Ahead: Mapping Opportunities in the Appliance World session scheduled for Wednesday, October 14th at 10am Pacific during the ENERGY STAR Products Partner Meeting in Portland, Oregon. This session is in lieu of our usual appliance specification update session and is product development-focused. As a reminder of all that we’ve accomplished together in the past year, please feel free to reference the summary slide deck as background for our discussion.

In preparation for the Road Ahead session, we received informative, candid and insightful feedback from partners, which helped us to identify major opportunities and challenges facing ENERGY STAR appliances in the next five years. Several overarching themes emerged touching on the future of laundry as a system; ways to navigate the crossroads of smaller savings in some categories, continued priority of consumer satisfaction, and opportunity to achieve broader sustainability goals; and opportunities for collaborative consumer messaging to encourage greater efficiency. Please come ready to share your experiences and suggestions – every piece of input is valuable to our process.

Recognizing that with only an hour for this initial session, we will only scratch the surface, we will also leave ample time at the end of the session to agree on next steps and assess interest and willingness in continuing the conversation on these and other topics.

We look forward to connecting with you in person in Portland! Please do not hesitate to contact Melissa (Fiffer.Melissa@epa.gov) with any questions or suggestions.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

Melissa Fiffer
ENERGY STAR Appliance Product Manager