September 13, 2013

Mr. Doug Anderson
ENERGYSTAR Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Re: ENERGY STAR Version 6.0 Final Draft Report

Dear Mr. Anderson,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the ENERGY STAR specification for residential Windows, Doors, and Skylights. As a longtime ENERGY STAR partner, and Retail Partner of the Year in 2006, 2007, 2012, and 2013, we are proud to support the ENERGY STAR program and provide its certified products to our customers. In fact, as the largest seller of energy efficient products worldwide, we sold 100 million ENERGY STAR products in 2012, and those total purchases made at The Home Depot saved our customers over $700 million in annual utility costs, reducing kilowatt hours (kWh) usage by over six billion.

One of The Home Depot’s core values is Excellent Customer Service, and that means helping our customers make informed choices about the products they use in their homes. We have a deep understanding of what drives customer behavior, and know that many Americans want to balance their interest in saving energy with their often constrained budgets. Because of the stricter qualification criteria on windows, doors, and skylights, we are concerned that the Final Draft of Version 6.0 takes the ENERGY STAR program from an affordable stretch for our customers to an unaffordable rejection when customers fail to see payback in a reasonable time for their investment. We believe that our customers’ choice to purchase energy efficient products should help both the environment and their wallets.

When it comes to the environment, all Americans can and should want to do better. However, we urge you to consider a middle ground on cost, payback time, and efficiency levels. Thank you for your careful consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Kent Knutson
Vice President
Government Relations