

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

November 9, 2023

Dear ENERGY STAR® Clothes Dryer Stakeholders:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing the [ENERGY STAR Clothes Dryer Version 2.0 Specification Discussion Guide](#). The purpose of this discussion guide is to engage with interested stakeholders to further inform an ENERGY STAR Version 2 specification for the clothes dryer product category.

**EPA will host a webinar on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 from 1 – 3 PM Eastern Time** to seek input from stakeholders on the topics enclosed. Please register to attend the webinar [here](#). Stakeholders are also asked to share feedback and data in response to this discussion guide by Thursday, December 14, 2023.

Since EPA last partnered with stakeholders to finalize the first ENERGY STAR Clothes Dryer Specification that took effect January 1, 2015, the clothes dryer market has evolved significantly. Specifically, technological advances, most notably heat pumps, offer significant efficiency gains and new features and functions are available across all brands.

Per the ENERGY STAR Guiding Principles, EPA also works towards ensuring that consumers have a positive experience and association with ENERGY STAR certified products, ensuring there is not a trade off in performance while in pursuit of greater efficiency. Accordingly, and in follow up to [ENERGY STAR Version 1.1 Clothes Dryers Clarification Memo](#) (May 19, 2020), EPA is seeking to gain a better understanding of the user experience with dryers and how to ensure promised savings are delivered. Further, EPA sees the potential for heat pump dryers to avoid the concerns EPA raised in 2020 and requests feedback in the accompanying draft with this in mind.

The discussion guide highlights multiple topics for further discussion summarized below. More details regarding these topics as well as specific questions are included in the discussion guide.

- **Scope:** EPA seeks information on the viability of expanding the scope of this specification to include a subset of commercial products.
- **Dryer Efficiency:** EPA seeks feedback on the understanding of dryer efficiency gains and technological and market updates.
- **Paired Laundry:** EPA seeks feedback on the impact of consumers using paired laundry versus washers and dryers not designed as a pair. EPA also requests feedback on how EPA could recognize energy efficiency and cycle time benefits for paired laundry.
- **Consumer Preferences:** EPA seeks information on the cycle and settings selections including the “eco” setting and their impact on energy use and consumer satisfaction.

- **Network-Connected Functionality, Updates, & Smart:** EPA seeks feedback on the understanding of demand response programs' engagement with dryers, product firmware and downloadable cycle updates, and smart or AI functionality in laundry products.
- **Commercial Dryer Testing:** EPA seeks feedback for the development of a new test method for commercial clothes dryers.

**Comment Submittal:**

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide written comments for EPA consideration to [appliances@energystar.gov](mailto:appliances@energystar.gov) no later than **Thursday, December 14, 2023**. As a reminder, all submitted comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR product development website unless the submitter specifically requests their respective comments remain confidential.

**Stakeholder Meeting:**

EPA plans to host a stakeholder webinar on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, to cover topics outlined in the discussion guide. Stakeholders interested in participating in these discussions may register [here](#).

Please contact me Steve Leybourn, EPA, at [Leybourn.Stephen@epa.gov](mailto:Leybourn.Stephen@epa.gov) or 202-564-1191, Fabria Jno. Baptiste, ICF, at [Fabria.JnoBaptiste@icf.com](mailto:Fabria.JnoBaptiste@icf.com) or Payal Hukeri, ICF, at [Payal.Hukeri@icf.com](mailto:Payal.Hukeri@icf.com) with questions or concerns. For any clothes dryer testing related questions, please contact Carl Shapiro at [carl.shapiro@ee.doe.gov](mailto:carl.shapiro@ee.doe.gov). Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,



Steve Leybourn, Product Manager ENERGY STAR Appliances  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Enclosures:

[ENERGY STAR Clothes Dryer Version 2.0 Specification Discussion Guide](#)