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



**OFFICE OF AIR AND  
RADIATION**

August 5, 2021

Dear ENERGY STAR® Residential Refrigerator and Freezer Manufacturers, Cooler Manufacturers, and Other Interested Parties:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the [ENERGY STAR Version 5.1 Consumer Refrigeration Products Final specification](#). This amendment expanded the scope to include coolers, a type of miscellaneous refrigeration product that includes wine coolers and beverage centers. This update does not affect currently certified products. Manufacturers may certify coolers meeting the requirements of this amendment immediately upon this publication.

Recognizing the differentiation in the market and potential for savings, EPA pursued this amendment to highlight efficiency leaders in coolers using ENERGY STAR. ENERGY STAR coolers have the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 1.185 billion lbs CO<sub>2e</sub> by saving 760 million kWh. Additionally, EPA updated definitions to align with DOE and changed the name of the specification to be inclusive of residential refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, freezers, and miscellaneous refrigeration products.

Most stakeholder-submitted comments agreed with EPA's scope expansion, criteria, and updated definitions. Some stakeholders disagreed with EPA's decision to not extend the connected credit to demand response capable coolers. Several years of experience working to incent connected functionality has demonstrated the constructive role the ENERGY STAR program can play increasing demand through recognition and influencing improved implementation through our specifications. EPA intends to continue these efforts while phasing out the use of credits to preserve the consumer value ENERGY STAR represents in terms of energy savings. All comments received are summarized in the [comment response matrix](#), which also includes the Agency's responses. EPA thanks stakeholders for their comments on this amendment.

All materials related to this amendment are posted on the [ENERGY STAR Consumer Refrigeration Products Version 5 development page](#). Please direct any specific questions to Ga-Young Park, EPA, at [Park.Ga-Young@epa.gov](mailto:Park.Ga-Young@epa.gov) or (202) 564-1085, and Morganne Blaylock, ICF, at [Morganne.Blaylock@icf.com](mailto:Morganne.Blaylock@icf.com) or (202) 862-2952.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,



Ga-Young Park  
Product Manager for Appliances  
ENERGY STAR Labeled Products

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