

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

February 2, 2017

Dear ENERGY STAR® Clothes Washer Brand Owner or Other Interested Party:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the Final Draft Version 8.0 ENERGY STAR Clothes Washer Specification and the ENERGY STAR Test Method for Residential Clothes Washers Cleaning Performance. EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who have invested time and effort to contribute feedback that has informed this product specification process. The effective date for this ENERGY STAR Clothes Washer specification will be January 1, 2018.

This final draft reflects feedback received from stakeholders in response to the Draft 2 specification, including additional market and product data. EPA has made modest adjustments in response to these comments which are highlighted below. Stakeholders will find note boxes within the final draft that share EPA's rationale behind the changes. EPA has also responded to comments received in the accompanying comment response document.

- Commercial Clothes Washers: EPA has increased the capacity scope limitation from 6.0 to 8.0 cubic feet and included the test load size table from the applicable Department of Energy (DOE) waiver in the final specification to provide clarity to stakeholders. Recognizing lack of ample availability of top loading models that meet leadership efficiency levels and performance concerns with the very limited models that do meet current ENERGY STAR requirements, EPA has decided to exclude commercial top-load clothes washers from the program's scope at this time.
- Residential Clothes Washer with Supplementary Wash System: EPA has added a definition for residential clothes washers with supplementary wash systems to enable these products to be certified under Version 8.0.
- Combination All-in-One Washer-Dryer: EPA will not include Combination All-in-One Washers in Version 8.0. EPA agrees this is a niche product and considering this and the lack of an applicable test method, EPA has determined that pursuing this product for inclusion in the ENERGY STAR program is not practical at this time.
- Residential Clothes Washer Cleaning Performance Test Procedure: EPA and DOE are enclosing the test method to measure the cleaning performance of residential clothes washers. Finalizing this test method is consistent with the government and many stakeholders' interest in ensuring that as energy and water efficiency increase, performance is not compromised. EPA and DOE's interest is to advance a mechanism by which cleaning performance can be demonstrated in a repeatable and reproducible manner. To that end, in lieu of an immediate reference to the test procedure in the Version 8.0 Clothes Washer specification, EPA will invite partners to participate in pilot use of the test method. Partners interested in participating are encouraged to contact us.

Any final comments on the specification should be provided via email to appliances@energystar.gov no later than February 16, 2017. All comments will be posted on the ENERGY STAR Product Development website unless submitter requests otherwise. Please direct any specification questions to Katharine Kaplan, EPA, at Kaplan.Katharine@epa.gov, or 202-343-9120; Steve Leybourn, ICF, at Steve.Leybourn@icf.com or (202) 862-1566; or Gabe Duarte, D+R International, at gduarte@drintl.com or (301) 273-2573. Please direct questions on Clothes Washer test methods to Ashley Armstrong, DOE,

Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov or (202) 586-6590. Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katharine Kaplan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Katharine Kaplan
Manager, ENERGY STAR Product Development and Program Admin