

HVAC@energystar.gov  
July 7, 2023

Dear ENERGY STAR,

We do not support the proposal to sunset ENERGY STAR designation for furnaces.

As a consumer, I look to ENERGY STAR to guide my appliance purchases – and in fact purchased an ENERGY STAR furnace in the last few years, dramatically improving energy efficiency. I could have purchased a minimum efficiency unit, but was influenced by the ENERGY STAR label to pay extra for better equipment that had other benefits – quieter, better controls, ECM fan for more even temperatures, etc.

There are over 100 efficiency programs in the county that incentivize high efficiency furnaces and ENERGY STAR equipment is often key those programs. Imagine if those programs vanished because there were no more ENERGY STAR furnaces on the market. This could lead to a decline in the efficiency of the national fleet of furnaces. Now is not the time to increase energy consumption!

Also, this proposal does not align with ENERGY STAR's "Program Strategic Vision and Guiding Principles" which include the direction "to treat fuel types separately, so that consumers may find the right products for the fuel type in their home."

Please withdraw this proposal.

Sincerely,

Kevin Duell, PE, LEED AP  
Lead Engineering Consultant  
NW Natural