

From: rothlisbergers@gmail.com
To: windows@energystar.gov
Subject: Comments on Energy Star v7.0
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Hi,

I was told that the comment period has been extended, so I hope this isn't too late. We are currently building a high-performance home in Washington state and our builder is utilizing a Canadian company for all of their triple-pane windows (fixed panes rated with U-Factor of 0.14). The cost of these windows was less than the cost of double-panes from the majority of US based suppliers. In light of this, I see tremendous value in upping the stakes for Energy Star compliance. If the industry standardized around higher-performance windows, so that all suppliers and processes were streamlined toward that end, it is certainly possible to attain those standards without dramatic cost increases – and maybe my builder wouldn't feel the need to go to Canada to get their windows. It would seem that the only thing standing in the way of this is the lack of market forces – a gap which could be filled by updating the Energy Star compliance requirement. Ten years ago the electric vehicle was too expensive, but now that the industry has rallied around it, we're seeing EVs priced the same as their combustion counterparts. The same thing can happen with windows. They just need more than market forces to move them in that direction.

Regards,
Travis Rothlisberger