

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



OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

December 19, 2013

Dear ENERGY STAR® Commercial Refrigerator and Freezer Partner or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to inform you that the Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Commercial Refrigerator and Freezer specification has been finalized. Your valuable feedback throughout the development process has been integral to the design of these final eligibility criteria. The new Version 3.0 specification will take effect on October 1, 2014. This letter outlines the transition process.

Since 2001, ENERGY STAR has been seen as a leader in helping customers identify the most energy efficient commercial refrigeration products in the market. In addition to recognizing improved efficiency across all eligible product types, this specification aligns ENERGY STAR testing requirements with the latest U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) ruling for commercial refrigeration equipment.

Commercial refrigerators and freezers that meet these new criteria will provide significant savings to purchasers. If all commercial refrigerators and freezers in the United States met the new ENERGY STAR specification, the savings in energy costs would grow to more than \$360 million each year, preventing more than 8 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions, equivalent to the emissions from more than 800,000 vehicles. Commercial refrigerators and freezers that earn the label will use, on average, between 40 and 65% and 40 and 86% less energy than standard models respectively, depending on the equipment class and volume.

The U.S. DOE currently has an open Test Procedure Rulemaking for Commercial Refrigeration Equipment. There are several definition refinements proposed in the test procedure which are relevant to this specification. Once the test procedure is finalized and published, EPA will amend the final V3.0 specification with the updated test method references and any relevant definition changes.

A complete Commercial Refrigerators and Freezers Program Requirements document, including the Final Version 3.0 Eligibility Criteria and existing Partner Commitments, is attached for your reference. Previous draft proposals, supporting analyses, and stakeholder comments are available on the Product Development website at [www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs](http://www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs) (click on 'Commercial Refrigerators & Freezers').

## Transition Timeline and Next Steps

EPA shares its Partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification version to the next with the objective of meeting end user expectations that ENERGY STAR labeled products fully meet the latest requirements in effect upon their date of manufacture. With this in mind, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 3.0 requirements.
- On **May 15, 2014** CBs will be asked to stop certifying new product submittals to the existing ENERGY STAR Version 2.1 specification requirements. Note, however, that existing certifications to Version 2.1 will remain valid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until October 1, 2014.
- As of **October 1, 2014** any product manufactured and labeled as ENERGY STAR must meet Version 3.0 requirements. At this time, all certifications of products to the Version 2.1 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification and CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 3.0 to EPA.

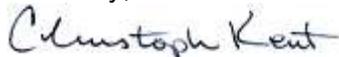
## Third-Party Certification

All new products must be certified by an EPA-recognized CB before being labeled and marketed as ENERGY STAR. Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the Partner that the product is ENERGY STAR certified and will submit qualified product data to EPA for listing on the ENERGY STAR website. For more information on the Third-party Certification program please visit [www.energystar.gov/3rdpartycert](http://www.energystar.gov/3rdpartycert).

Please note that ENERGY STAR partnership as a manufacturer is limited to organizations that own and/or license a brand name under which they sell eligible products in the United States and/or Canada. Partnership is not available to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that do not sell directly to consumers or end users. OEMs may certify products on behalf of the ENERGY STAR brand owners/licensees; however the brand owner must be the ENERGY STAR partner associated directly with the certified product models, since only partners are authorized to use the ENERGY STAR certification mark.

On behalf of EPA, I appreciate your participation in the development of this specification and look forward to working with each of you as you qualify and promote your energy-efficient equipment. Please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9046 or [kent.christopher@epa.gov](mailto:kent.christopher@epa.gov) or Adam Spitz, ICF International, at (202) 862-1226 and [adam.spitz@icfi.com](mailto:adam.spitz@icfi.com) with any questions or comments regarding this specification. For questions relating to the test method, please contact Ashley Armstrong at [ashley.armstrong@ee.doe.gov](mailto:ashley.armstrong@ee.doe.gov).

Sincerely,



Christopher Kent, Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR Commercial Refrigerator and Freezer