

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

May 19, 2014

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Clothes Dryer Manufacturers and Other Interested Parties,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the final Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR Clothes Dryers specification. EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who have invested time and effort in the development of this new specification. The Version 1.0 requirements will take effect on January 1, 2015. This letter provides highlights of the new requirements and outlines the implementation process.

Final Version 1.0 Specification:

This specification establishes energy efficiency requirements for residential clothes dryers seeking ENERGY STAR certification. Dryers are the most energy-intensive residential appliance not yet covered by the ENERGY STAR program, using 6% of residential electricity in the U.S. Under the Version 1.0 specification, ENERGY STAR residential clothes dryers will use, on average, approximately 20% less energy than required by minimum efficiency standards effective in 2015. If all residential clothes dryers sold in the United States met these new requirements, the utility cost savings would grow to more than \$1.5 billion each year and more than 22 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from more than 2 million vehicles. This final specification will highlight the top performing gas, electric, and compact dryers and will recognize models with connected functionality, providing immediate consumer convenience and longer term grid benefit too.

Appendix D2 Reference

This specification references the Appendix D2 test procedure, widely seen as a better measure of auto-termination sensor effectiveness. Taking advantage of this improved measure of performance for ENERGY STAR is consistent with the purpose of the program, which is to serve as a reliable indicator of high efficiency and provide a competitive advantage to models that deliver that performance.

Maximum Cycle Time Requirement

To ensure that efficiency gains are not achieved at the expense of longer cycle times, EPA has included a maximum cycle time of 80 minutes for the energy test cycle used for ENERGY STAR certification.

User Information Requirements

In support of EPA's broad objective to educate consumers on the energy use of clothes dryers, manufacturers will be required to identify the cycle tested for ENERGY STAR certification and provide guidance on the energy implications of selecting different settings. EPA sees this as an important step toward raising consumer awareness of the energy impact of the clothes dryer cycle choices they have.

Optional Connected Criteria

The Version 1.0 specification also establishes optional "connected" criteria for residential clothes dryers, consistent with other ENERGY STAR appliance specifications. ENERGY STAR certified dryers with connected functionality will offer consumers convenience and energy-savings features, such as an alert indicating a performance issue or feedback to consumers on the energy-efficiency of different cycle selections. These products will also be "smart grid" ready, meaning they will give consumers the option to connect their clothes dryer with their local utility to save money on their energy bills, where those services are offered, and also facilitate broader electric power system efficiency.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is planning to develop a test method that will validate the demand response capabilities of residential clothes dryers. Once developed, this test will be added to the ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for Clothes dryers as a separate document. Upon the availability of a final and validated test method, manufacturers will need to certify products using the ENERGY STAR test method for Demand Response in order to take advantage of the 5% energy allowance. Products meeting the connected criteria will be identified as such on the ENERGY STAR qualified product list, but the energy allowance may not be used in certification of the products absent a finalized test method.

The limited feedback EPA received in response to the final draft on substantive issues was a reiteration of concerns stakeholders had noted in response to previous drafts and to which EPA has responded. EPA folded in small changes that were suggested for clarity. One stakeholder requested an expansion of the consumer information requirements, to include information on dryer cycle time depending on the type of washer the consumer has. EPA chose not to include that in the final dryer specification, and will instead include such information in the forthcoming ENERGY STAR residential dryer web page.

Next Steps:

While we understand that availability of qualifying product may be limited in advance of the specification effective date, the following provisions are being made to allow for early qualification:

- Manufacturers new to the ENERGY STAR program may submit a Partnership Agreement to join@energystar.gov to initiate the application process for the clothes dryer program. Existing partners need only send an email expressing their intention to certify products to this new specification to join@energystar.gov. For information about this process, please visit www.energystar.com/join.
- **EPA will host a Certification Body (CB) webinar in May or early June 2014.** CB's are required to attend the webinar in order to be recognized by EPA for the certification of clothes dryers. Following the webinar, CBs may apply for recognition for the ENERGY STAR clothes dryer category. EPA will inform qualified CBs of their recognition and post them to the ENERGY STAR website. CBs may then begin certifying products. **EPA will send an additional communication informing CBs of the webinar date and registration details.**
- Third-party laboratories interested in obtaining EPA recognition for the ENERGY STAR clothes dryer program are encouraged to begin the accreditation process with their accreditation body, if they have not already done so. First-party, un-accredited labs can conduct testing if they participate in a witnessed or supervised testing program run by a CB. For more information, please visit www.energystar.gov/testingandverification.
- Clothes dryers may be labeled and promoted with the ENERGY STAR mark once they are certified. EPA is preparing the qualified product list infrastructure now and anticipates completing it in June.

Third-party Certification:

As a reminder, all new products must be certified by an EPA recognized CB before being labeled and marketed as ENERGY STAR certified. Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the partner that the product is ENERGY STAR certified and will submit certified 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.

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.

EPA thanks all stakeholders who provided feedback during this specification revision process and looks forward to working with you as you qualify and market your ENERGY STAR certified clothes dryers. Please direct any specific questions on the Version 1.0 specification to Melissa Fiffer, EPA, at Fiffer.Melissa@epa.gov or (202) 343-9464. Questions on test methods should be directed to Ashley Armstrong, DOE, at Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov or (202) 586-6590.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Abigail Daken".

Abigail Daken
Product Manager
ENERGY STAR Appliances