

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

April 29, 2013

Dear ENERGY STAR® Residential Dishwasher Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The Federal minimum efficiency standards for compact residential dishwashers manufactured on or after May 30, 2013 are equivalent to the current ENERGY STAR requirements for compact units. This situation has prompted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to propose a set of steps to help minimize the potential for customer confusion during the time it takes to establish new requirements that more effectively differentiate energy efficient compact dishwashers from standard models. This proposal sets up what we intend to be a reasonable transition process and proposes an amendment to the Version 5.1 dishwasher specification, consistent with that process. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on this proposal to appliances@energystar.gov by May 20, 2013.

Specifically, EPA proposes:

- 1) Effective July 29, 2013 (60 days after manufacturers are required to comply with the amended Federal standard), certification bodies (CBs) would be asked to stop certifying new compact dishwashers to ENERGY STAR.
- 2) Compact dishwasher certified to ENERGY STAR Version 5.1 or Version 5.2 prior to July 29, 2013 would remain qualified through December 31, 2013. After this date, all compact models would be removed from the qualified product list and could no longer be promoted as ENERGY STAR.

Additionally, EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) have updated Section 1 to include definitions of a compact dishwasher and a standard dishwasher from 10 CFR 430 Subpart B Appendix C1, consistent with the Version 5.1 requirement that dishwashers certified beginning May 30, 2013 be tested using Appendix C1.

This proposal is reflected in the attached draft Version 5.2 specification for stakeholder review.

Later this year, EPA plans to initiate a Version 6.0 specification development process to consider revisions to the energy and water criteria for dishwashers and establish new requirements for cleaning performance, for both compact and standard-sizes. Per EPA's data assembly announcement on February 28th, EPA is currently gathering cleaning performance data of ENERGY STAR qualified products through May 31, 2013, which will be used to inform proposed new criteria in a first draft. Assuming the Agency has adequate data by the end of May, EPA anticipates completing this Version 6.0 specification development effort in early 2014, at which time compact dishwashers meeting the new final requirements would be re-eligible for qualification.

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA and stakeholders is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. Please direct any questions regarding this proposal and the attached draft Version 5.2 specification to Amanda Stevens at EPA, Stevens.Amanda@epa.gov or (202) 343-9106 or Ryan Fogle, D&R International, at rfogle@drintl.com or (301) 588-9387. Stakeholders with questions related to the test methods for ENERGY STAR dishwashers should contact Ashley Armstrong at DOE, Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov. Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Stevens". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'S'.

Amanda Stevens, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR Dishwashers