

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

March 17, 2014

Dear Laboratory Grade Refrigerator and Freezer Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) welcome your input on the Final Draft Test Method for Laboratory Grade Refrigerators and Freezers (Rev. Feb 2014). Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on this test method by April 25, 2014.

Key Elements of the Final Draft Test Method

This final draft test method is informed by stakeholder comments in response to the previous drafts including feedback received during a web meeting and during subsequent discussions with individual stakeholders. Rationales are highlighted in note boxes located throughout the document.

The Final Draft Test Method incorporates the following key modifications from the previous Draft 2 Test Method:

- Modification of the Steady State requirement to a requirement for a pull down period prior to testing
- Requiring weighted temperature monitoring devices (TMDs) to ensure accurate reporting of Stability and Uniformity values
- Modification to Door Opening tolerances
- Modification to Door Opening requirements for Lab Grade Freezers and Ultra Low temperature freezers

Non-qualified Product Test Data Assembly

EPA is interested in continuing to assemble data on laboratory grade refrigerator and freezer energy performance and temperature uniformity test results, to enhance EPA's existing dataset. Data from all product sub-types would be appreciated, but to date, EPA has not had access to any data on non-general use models nor units operating below -30°C. As the specification development is a data driven process, EPA is only able to establish efficiency requirements for those product types for which we have performance data from an established test procedure. Please use the posted Test Reporting Template to provide data on product energy performance using this Final Draft Test Method.

Next Steps

Stakeholders may submit written comment on the Final Draft Test Method through April 25, 2014. Please send all comments and supporting information to labgraderefrigeration@energystar.gov. Along with the Final Draft Test Method, we have posted a summary of the comments received on the previous drafts of the test method along with

responses. We have also posted a revised test reporting template based on the Final Draft Test Method.

Web based discussion on final draft test method

On Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at 11 AM Eastern Time, EPA and DOE will hold an online stakeholder meeting to discuss EPA and DOE's proposed final draft test method and address stakeholders' comments and concerns. To register for this meeting please click [here](#).

All official EPA correspondences and specification documents will be posted throughout the specification development process to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web page at www.energystar.gov/newspeccs. In addition, all written comments received by EPA will be posted to the product specific web page unless requested otherwise by the submitter

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. Your input is very valuable during this specification development process.

Please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9046 and kent.christopher@epa.gov or John Clinger, ICF International, at (215) 967-9407 or john.clinger@icfi.com with any questions or comments regarding the specification development process or the data assembly. For questions relating to the test method development or validation testing conducted, please contact Bryan Berringer at (202) 586-0371 or bryan.berringer@ee.doe.gov

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR. I look forward to working with you during the specification revision process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Kent". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Christopher Kent, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for Laboratory Grade Refrigerators and Freezers