



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

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

March 7, 2005

Dear ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Dehumidifier Partner or Other Industry Stakeholder:

Over the past several months the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been investigating several different options for the revising the current ENERGY STAR dehumidifier specification. I am now pleased to provide you with a Draft 1 Version 2.0 specification for your review and comment. This document outlines the proposed new energy-efficiency requirements that dehumidifiers would need to meet in order to earn the ENERGY STAR. It is intended that once final, this specification will replace the current Version 1.0 specification, effective March 1, 2006.

The Draft 1 Version 2.0 specification incorporates the following key changes:

- Manufacturers are now required to place the ENERGY STAR mark on qualified product packaging to both ensure that consumers can easily identify qualified models in-store and to increase awareness of the ENERGY STAR mark.
- Product capacity bins are categorized by US pints instead of Liters. This change has been made to reflect how dehumidifiers are categorized and sold in the marketplace.
- There are six dehumidifier capacity bins in this Version 2.0 specification as opposed to the current four. This change has been made in order to more precisely differentiate the energy factors of the most common capacity sized models.
- The minimum Energy Factor under Test Conditions for the four middle capacity bins has increased by 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, and 0.3 L/kWh, respectively. This change has been made based on analysis conducted by EPA of the current market penetration of ENERGY STAR in these markets, which is approximately 76%. To ensure that the ENERGY STAR mark continues to identify the top performing models in the marketplace, EPA is increasing these levels.

**All interested stakeholders will have until April 8, 2005 to provide feedback on this Draft 1 specification.** Comments should be sent to Mehernaz Polad, ICF Consulting, via e-mail at [mpolad@icfconsulting.com](mailto:mpolad@icfconsulting.com). At the end of the comment period, EPA will carefully review and consider all comments submitted and distribute subsequent drafts, as necessary.

In addition to your review of this specification, EPA is also interested in learning more regarding the market for low capacity dehumidifier models, i.e.,  $\leq 25$  pints per day. Several manufacturers have qualified models as ENERGY STAR in this capacity bin but for several years, EPA has not received any shipment information from partners during annual unit shipment data collection efforts. EPA requests that manufacturers provide feedback as to whether these low capacity dehumidifier models are sold within the US and if so, why shipment data has not been reported to EPA to date?

It is EPA's intention to finalize this Version 2.0 specification as soon as discussions with stakeholders are complete. Once the specification is finalized, existing dehumidifier partners will not be required to resign

a Partnership Agreement to continue their participation. **However, as of the proposed March 1, 2006 effective date, only those models that meet the requirements in the new Version 2.0 specification can continue to bear the ENERGY STAR mark.** Existing models that are not able to meet the new requirements will no longer qualify as ENERGY STAR and will be removed from the Qualified Products List on the ENERGY STAR Web site after the partner has been notified.

The exchange of ideas and information among EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. As such, you are strongly encouraged to provide prompt feedback. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site unless the submitter requests that their comments remain confidential. If you support the Draft 1 Version 2.0 specification, or do not wish to comment, please state this in writing or via email. It is equally important that EPA understand which portions of the draft specification meet with stakeholder approval, in addition to identifying the sections that may need further revision.

To track EPA's progress in revising the ENERGY STAR dehumidifier specification and to review comments, visit the Product Development Web site at [www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment](http://www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment) and click on "Revisions to Existing Product Specifications" on the right navigation bar.

Thank you for taking the time to review this draft specification. I look forward to working with you over the next few months. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or concerns at (202) 343-9019 or via e-mail at [fanara.andrew@epa.gov](mailto:fanara.andrew@epa.gov).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Fanara', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrew Fanara  
EPA Program Manager  
ENERGY STAR for Dehumidifiers