

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

October 9, 2012

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Residential Dishwasher Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) are pleased to share with you the attached Draft 2, ENERGY STAR Test Method for Determining Residential Dishwasher Cleaning Performance. EPA and DOE welcome your comments on this Draft 2 Test Method; please submit comments no later than November 9, 2012. EPA and DOE will hold a stakeholder webinar on October 16, 2012, to discuss the Draft 2 Test Method.

Key elements of the proposed Draft 2 Test Method include:

- Updated references to the recently amended Federal dishwasher test procedure (10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B, Appendix C1); this is the test procedure that will be required for measuring dishwasher energy and water consumption when the future Version 6.0 Residential Dishwasher specification takes effect.
- References to the relevant sections of the IEC standard 60436 Ed. 3.1, and ANSI/AHAM standard DW-1-2010 to specify the cleaning performance rating conditions and water hardness requirements.
- References the Federal dishwasher test procedure (10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B, Appendix C1) for the preconditioning cycles and detergent dosing requirements.
- Cleaning performance is determined on the same cycle settings as those used in the energy and water consumption tests for soil-sensing dishwashers. For non-soil sensing dishwashers, cleaning performance is determined immediately after the energy and water consumption tests using the same soil-loads as required for soil-sensing dishwashers.
- Requires the manufacturer's use and care guide be followed to load a unit under test (UUT), while alternating clean and soiled load items.
- Includes flatware in the scoring to avoid circumvention of the test method.
- Retains the IEC standard 60436 Ed. 3.1 scoring methodology; additional testing has indicated this scoring procedure is more repeatable than the scoring procedure in ANSI/AHAM standard DW-1-2010.
- Calculates individual cleaning performance score at each soil load instead of using a weighted performance metric.
- A preliminary discussion of the sampling plan that:

- For soil-sensing dishwashers, would require the cleaning performance test one time on three different UUTs. The per-cycle cleaning performance score for each soil load would be determined by taking the lowest value out of the three UUTs.
- For non-soil sensing dishwashers, would require the cleaning performance test to be run one time on at least one UUT. Manufacturers could also choose to test more than one unit. If more than one UUT is used, the per-cycle cleaning performance score for each soil load would be determined by taking the average value of the UUTs.

Additionally, along with the Draft 2 test method, EPA and DOE are providing a revised scoring sheet that includes flatware items for stakeholder review and comment. A revised test data template is also being developed and a draft of this template will be made available on the ENERGY STAR dishwasher test method development website. The scoring sheet and template are being developed as optional tools that test labs and certification bodies (CBs) could use when collecting, assessing and reporting test results related to qualification. The scoring sheet may be used along with the template to record the score of each item in the test load to calculate the cleaning performance score.

As the test method is being finalized later this year, EPA plans to launch the Version 6.0 residential dishwasher specification development process. EPA plans to begin this effort with a call for data that provides an opportunity for manufacturers to share cleaning performance test data, gathered using the ENERGY STAR dishwasher cleaning performance test method, with the Agency. EPA plans use this data set to develop proposed energy- and water- performance requirements and minimum cleaning performance requirements, for the Version 6.0 specification.

Stakeholder Webinar to Discuss Draft 2 Test Method

EPA and DOE intend to co-host a webinar on Tuesday, October 16th at 1:00 p.m. (EDT) to discuss the Draft 2 test method and address stakeholder questions. To RSVP, please email appliances@energystar.gov by Friday, October 12th at 5:00 p.m. (EDT). Further details will be distributed to confirmed attendees in advance of the webinar.

Comment Submittal

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide written comments via email to appliances@energystar.gov no later than November 9, 2012. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development website unless the submitter requests otherwise.

Schedule

The anticipated schedule for development of the ENERGY STAR Residential Dishwasher Cleaning Performance Test Method and the Version 6.0 specification development effort is as follows:

February 17, 2012	Draft 1 Test Method distributed
October 9, 2012	Draft 2 Test Method distributed
October 16, 2012	Stakeholder webinar to discuss Draft 2 Test Method
November 9, 2012	Draft 2 comment period ends
December 2012	Draft Final Test Method Published
Early 2013	Final Test Method Published
Late 2012/Early 2013	EPA begins Version 6.0 spec development

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA and DOE, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. To follow progress in development of this new test method, please visit the following ENERGY STAR Product Development website: http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=revisions.residential_dishwashers_v2.

Please direct any specific questions about the development of the future Version 6.0 specification to Amanda Stevens, EPA, at stevens.amanda@epa.gov or (202) 343-9106. Residential dishwasher test

method questions should be directed to Ashley Armstrong, DOE, at Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov. Thank you for taking the time to review this draft test method.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Stevens". The ink is a dark grey or black color.

Amanda Stevens, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR Appliances