



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

February 11, 2003

Dear ENERGY STAR Windows Stakeholder:

Throughout the past year, the Department of Energy has worked with many stakeholders in the window, door and skylight industries to discuss potential revisions to the ENERGY STAR criteria for these products. At this time, the Department would like to circulate two alternatives for review and comment. Each alternative meets our objectives of increasing energy savings, meeting or exceeding code requirements, and offering a consumer-friendly approach to selecting high-performance windows.

The first alternative is the same one proposed in May 2002, based on a three-zone map, focusing on maximizing cooling energy savings. Due to the importance of reducing cooling energy requirements and maximizing peak load savings, the three-zone alternative remains our preferred alternative. We are also offering a second alternative, based on a four-zone climate map, for public comment. While the four-zone alternative results in a higher national energy savings potential, the peak load savings are lower than the three-zone alternative. The criteria for ENERGY STAR doors will be the same as for windows and have been adjusted to reflect new rating procedures which will be adopted by National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) later this year. Tables summarizing the alternative approaches and a discussion of the decision factors are attached.

Along with this letter, a revised energy analysis is posted for your review, at: http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=prod_development.windows_spec
Please provide your comments by March 28, 2003. You are welcome to send them electronically to richard.karney@ee.doe.gov or by fax at (202) 586-4617. The Department anticipates issuing the final criteria in April, with an effective date of August 29, 2003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard H. Karney".

Richard H. Karney, P.E., Manager
ENERGY STAR Program
Building Technologies Program

Attachments

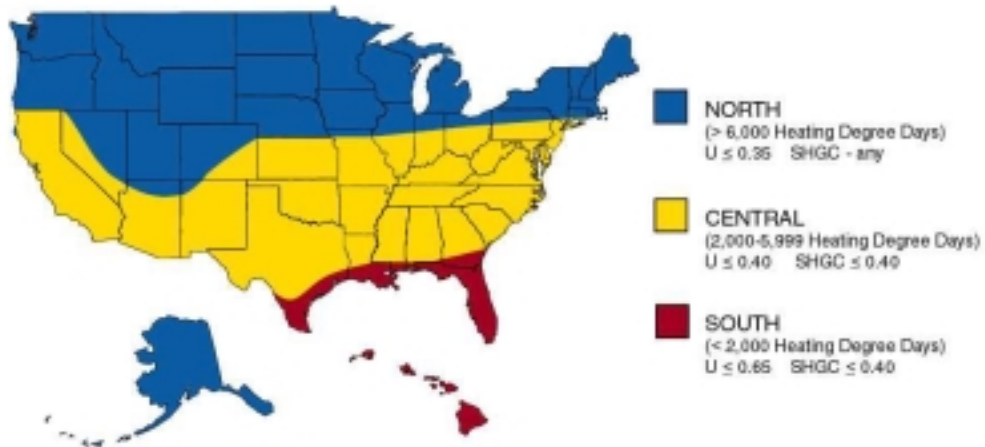
ENERGY STAR Windows Program Alternatives

Three-Zone Alternative: Criteria for Windows and Doors

Zone	Approximate HDD Coverage	U-factor	SHGC
Southern	≤2,000 HDD	≤0.65	≤0.40
Central	2,000 - 5,999 HDD	≤0.40	≤0.40
Northern	≥6,000 HDD	≤0.35	Any

Three-Zone Alternative: Criteria for Skylights

Zone	Approximate HDD Coverage	U-factor	SHGC
Southern	≤2,000 HDD	≤0.75	≤0.40
Central	2,000 - 5,999 HDD	≤0.55	≤0.40
Northern	≥6,000 HDD	≤0.55	Any



Four-Zone Alternative: Criteria for Windows and Doors

Zone	Approximate HDD/CDD Coverage	U-factor	SHGC
Southern	≥6,300 CDD	≤0.65	≤0.40
South/Central	6,300 - 4,500 CDD	≤0.40	≤0.40
North/Central	3,600 - 5,400 HDD	≤0.40	≤0.55
Northern	≥5,400 HDD	≤0.35	Any

Four-Zone Alternative: Criteria for Skylights

Zone	Approximate HDD/CDD Coverage	U-factor	SHGC
Southern	≥6,300 CDD	≤0.75	≤0.40
South/Central	6,300 - 4,500 CDD	≤0.55	≤0.40
North/Central	3,600 - 5,400 HDD	≤0.55	≤0.55
Northern	≥5,400 HDD	≤0.55	Any

