

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

January 22, 2007

Dear ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Air Source Heat Pump/Central Air Conditioner Partner:

The purpose of this letter is to remind partners about an important provision of the recent revision to the ENERGY STAR specification for central air conditioners and air source heat pumps.

In April 2006, the Version 4.0 ENERGY STAR Central Air Conditioner and Air Source Heat Pump Specification went into effect. In the Partner Commitments section of this document, it states that Partners are required to provide the following disclaimer whenever the ENERGY STAR certification mark is used to identify qualifying equipment.

“Proper sizing and installation of equipment is critical to achieve optimal performance. Split system air conditioners and heat pumps must be matched with appropriate coil components to meet ENERGY STAR criteria. Ask your contractor for details or visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).”

In addition, partners are required to provide language that stresses the importance of proper installation in corresponding installation manuals. Specifically:

**For Package Units:** IMPORTANT - This product has been designed and manufactured to meet ENERGY STAR criteria for energy efficiency. However, proper refrigerant charge and proper air flow are critical to achieve rated capacity and efficiency. Installation of this product should follow the manufacturer’s refrigerant charging and air flow instructions. **Failure to confirm proper charge and airflow may reduce energy efficiency and shorten equipment life.**

**For Split-System Units:** IMPORTANT - This product has been designed and manufactured to meet ENERGY STAR criteria for energy efficiency when matched with appropriate coil components. However, proper refrigerant charge and proper air flow are critical to achieve rated capacity and efficiency. Installation of this product should follow the manufacturer’s refrigerant charging and air flow instructions. **Failure to confirm proper charge and airflow may reduce energy efficiency and shorten equipment life.**

As stated in various communications during the specification revision process, EPA will closely monitor the use of the ENERGY STAR logo and disclaimer language in marketing materials including Internet sites and in trade and popular publications, and will follow up with Partners should any logo use violations be identified. At this point, EPA feels adequate time has passed to allow for materials already in circulation prior to the April 1, 2006 effective date of the requirement to have been phased out of the market. **As of this date, EPA will begin monitoring this information and issue logo violation notifications if the requirements are not met.**

As always, we appreciate your continued support of the ENERGY STAR Program which includes the use of the disclaimer language so that consumers can clearly understand how to obtain optimal performance of their central air conditioner and air source heat pump systems. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov](mailto:schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov) or (202) 343-9124.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Schmeltz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "y".

Rachel Schmeltz  
ENERGY STAR Program Manager