

**From:** Ed Colwell [mailto:ecolwell@hartwellexteriors.com]  
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**Cc:** Information  
**Subject:** Setting meaningful standards

Gentleman:

I've been following your proposed changes in qualifying energy star windows. I must express my disappointment in the level of commitment to the American homeowner by the government and it's agency representatives.

I pray that the U-Factors you are proposing are whole window factors and not just center of glass. Even by whole window standard they are wimpy compared to what the industry is capable of today.

I met with D&R and the DOE many years ago at a conference in Lexington, Massachusetts. At that time I was seriously discouraged by the effect the national sales manager of Andersen window had on the conference. In that conference the "Big Window" company representative was clearly more concerned with slowing production down than helping American families control costs and improve comfort.

From reading a recent quote it seems D&R and the DOE continue to put the interests of manufacturers before those of the American homeowner. "It made sense not to overburden manufacturers by making them change production processes twice," Richard Karney said. People are buying windows every day that are minimal performers compared to what the industry is capable of performing today. Windows purchased this year will not be replaced for a very long time.

Today every window company can produce a whole window U-Factor below .25 why not set the minimum standard there? Today! Require a real AIR standard.

Every window can be tested for air infiltration to at least one decimal point. The energystar.org website has the best narrative on air sealing available anywhere yet the agency requires no disclosure of how much air a window is allowed to leak. I have to assume the big window companies can't pass the test.

If you really want the American homeowner to be able to 'DIFFERENTIATE' between windows, you must to give them the tools to do that at one source; a complete Energy Star label.

Disappointed Again,

Ed Colwell