



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

August 3, 2007

Dear ENERGY STAR Partners and Stakeholders:

The Department of Energy (the Department) has reviewed all partner and stakeholder comments concerning the proposed change to the ENERGY STAR criteria for refrigerators. After evaluation of all comments and analyzing the potential impacts in the marketplace, effective April 28, 2008, the ENERGY STAR qualification criteria for refrigerators will be as proposed in our April 27, 2007, analysis including:

- o Standard refrigerators must be 20% more efficient than the Federal standard
- o The test procedure will change as specified in the draft program requirements
- o The criteria for compact refrigerators and freezers will not change

Several issues were raised during the June stakeholder meeting, following the stakeholder meeting, and in both comment periods. The Department has evaluated all comments and thanks all stakeholders for their input. The main issue of contention was the effective date. The Department feels that the aggregate savings of the new criteria and the fact that qualified products are already available justify the proposed effective date. It is expected that most manufacturers will have qualified products within a few months of the effective date.

As of April 28, 2008, manufacturers may no longer label products or place the ENERGY STAR logo on the EnergyGuide label for products that no longer meet the criteria. Retailers may label existing products that met the previous criteria and are labeled by the manufacturer as qualified until July 28, 2008.

On behalf of the Department, I would like to thank all stakeholders for the assistance provided during this criteria-setting process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard H. Karney".

Richard H. Karney, P.E.
ENERGY STAR Products Manager
U.S. Department of Energy