



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 28, 2002

Dear ENERGY STAR Windows Stakeholder:

On May 8, 2002, the Department of Energy proposed new criteria for ENERGY STAR[®] windows, doors and skylights. We received numerous, insightful comments, including some alternative proposals, that warrant serious consideration. In order to give the alternative proposals the consideration they are due, I am withdrawing our May 8th proposal and maintaining the current criteria. By withdrawing the proposal, I hope to avoid confusion in the marketplace and avoid our partners making premature investments in product or marketing plans.

I remain particularly troubled by the lack of empirical data on the role of solar heat gain in certain regions of the country and feel further analysis is warranted before we can make a clear determination on this question. It is my hope that a continuing review of the comments we have received and new analysis on the solar heat gain question will equip us to advance a new proposal when it is appropriate to do so.

It is my intention to subject any new body of analysis and any new proposal we might put forward to public review and comment. While I can not assign a timeline to this process, it is clear we will incur a significant delay beyond the January 1, 2003 implementation date we had hoped to achieve.

I recognize this delay will affect, in the short term, many of our partners' plans. However, settling these difficult questions will ultimately contribute to the continued success of the ENERGY STAR windows program. In the meantime, the current ENERGY STAR criteria will remain in effect, and we will continue to support the various programs and activities that are built around it as we have in the past.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David K. Garman", written over a horizontal line.

David K. Garman
Assistant Secretary
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

