

As a wholesale distributor in the HVAC business, I am quite frustrated with the current system. Energy Star "labeled" units have caused much confusion and in many cases a loss of utility rebate for the consumer.

Many of our local utilities and cooperatives offer rebates based on Energy Star. The ones offering rebates based on Energy Star guidelines are the easiest to work with. The ARI match proves it meets the criteria, and it insures that the homeowner gets what they paid for.

The utilities and cooperatives that offer rebates based on Energy Star "labeled" units are not allowing rebates on non-labeled units, even if the matched system is ARI rated at the Energy Star guideline of 13 SEER.

(We have several matches that are nominal 12 SEER units that can be matched to achieve 13 SEER, ARI approved. These have been rejected by many utilities and co-ops).

If everybody would stick to Energy Star matched systems with ARI approvals, it would be fair and equitable to all parties concerned, particularly the end user. Too many HVAC "installers" try to cut corners and use the existing coil or some "close out" coil that they purchased from an HVAC liquidator. Let's give the home owner what they are entitled to and fulfill the goal of Energy Star to promote energy saving systems.

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