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

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

January 25, 2023

Dear ENERGY STAR® Partner or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the selection of Commercial Heat Pump Clothes Dryer as a 2023 ENERGY STAR Emerging Technology Award category. EPA is recognizing this technology category as having the best potential for energy savings from the group of products submitted for this year's award.

Overview of the Emerging Technology Award
Launched in 2011, the ENERGY STAR Emerging Technology Award raises the profile of innovative technologies that have the potential to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions once more widely adopted. The annual Award recognizes promising technologies that may not yet meet key principles associated with product categories eligible for the ENERGY STAR label (e.g., those that are broadly available, cost effective to the consumer, use industry standard test methods, etc) or may represent large improvements in existing ENERGY STAR product categories. As products become more mainstream, Award categories may become candidates for ENERGY STAR specification development. For more information on the Award, visit www.energystar.gov/emergingtech.

Technology Overview – Commercial Heat Pump Clothes Dryer
Commercial heat pump dryers with inverter driven compressors have the potential to deliver dramatic energy improvements to a commonly used commercial product category. The heat pump is used to significantly increase the efficiency of the heating cycle, and, when paired with a variable speed compressor, its performance is maximized by maintaining ideal dryer drum temperature and humidity. Another compelling factor in selecting a technology in this product category is that commercial dryers are not subject to minimum efficiency standards, so there is no maximum limit to energy use. Initial estimates indicate that this new heat pump technology could bring up to 50% energy savings without sacrificing the important drying time performance. Draft performance criteria are currently under development and will be released for comment in the coming weeks.

Extension of Adaptive Commercial Refrigeration Equipment Emerging Technology Award into 2023
In addition to recognizing a new product category, with this letter, EPA is extending recognition of the 2022 Award category – Adaptive Commercial Refrigeration Equipment – into 2023. To date, there have been two brands that earned an Emerging Technology Award for Adaptive Commercial Refrigeration Equipment with products that deliver 25% energy savings when compared with standard units. The recognized products list, with 34 products, can be found here. Please see www.energystar.gov/emergingtech for award criteria and instructions for new submissions.

If you have any questions about the Award or the criteria development process, please contact me, Peter Banwell, at banwell.peter@epa.gov and (202) 343-9408, or Kelly Schneider at Kelly.Schneider@icf.com.

Best Regards,

Peter Banwell
ENERGY STAR Program

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