

**BEFORE THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Washington, D.C. 20585**

In the Matter of:)

Golden Opportunity, Inc.,)
(freezers))

Case Number: 2013-SE-1418

Issued: April 24, 2013

NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Manufacturers and private labelers are prohibited from distributing covered products in the United States that do not comply with applicable federal energy conservation standards. 10 C.F.R. § 429.102; 42 U.S.C. § 6302. Golden Opportunity, Inc. ("Golden Opportunity") is a private labeler and owns the "Golden" trademark, which Golden Opportunity uses to distribute household appliances, including residential freezers, in the United States.

TESTING

1. The U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE") tested four units of [REDACTED]¹ model number [REDACTED], manufactured in [REDACTED] that had been distributed in the United States by a third-party private labeler. The [REDACTED] is privately labeled and distributed in the United States by Golden Opportunity as the Golden GFC51.²

DOE's testing in accordance with DOE test procedures (10 C.F.R. Part 430, Subpart B, Appendix B1) demonstrated that [REDACTED] basic model [REDACTED] is not in compliance with the applicable federal energy conservation standard. Given the tested units' measured volumes, the maximum permissible rate of energy consumption was [REDACTED] kilowatt-hours per year (kWh/yr).³ The four units that DOE tested consumed energy at the rates [REDACTED] kWh/yr. Furthermore, in a Compromise Agreement executed April 23, 2013, Golden Opportunity admitted that the Golden GFC51 does not comply with the applicable federal energy conservation standard.

2. DOE tested four units of [REDACTED] model number [REDACTED], manufactured in [REDACTED] that had been distributed in the United States by a third-party private labeler. The

¹ [REDACTED] for the purposes of this Notice means [REDACTED] or one or more of those [REDACTED] companies, all of which are subsidiaries or affiliates of [REDACTED]

² [REDACTED] informed DOE through compelled sales records that that it sold model [REDACTED] to Golden Opportunity to be privately labeled and distributed in the United States as the Golden GFC51.

³ Under 10 C.F.R. § 430.32(a), the maximum energy use, in kWh/yr, of a compact chest freezer may not exceed 152 plus the product of 10.45 and the total adjusted volume of the particular freezer (10.45AV+152.0).

██████████ is privately labeled and distributed in the United States by Golden Opportunity as the Golden GFC69.⁴

DOE's testing in accordance with DOE test procedures (10 C.F.R. Part 430, Subpart B, Appendix B1) demonstrated that ██████████ basic mode ██████████ is not in compliance with the applicable federal energy conservation standard. Given the tested units' measured volumes, the maximum permissible rate of energy consumption was ██████ kilowatt-hours per year (kWh/yr). Based on their performance during testing, the four units that DOE tested consumed energy at the respective rates ██████████ kWh/yr. Furthermore, in a Compromise Agreement executed April 23, 2013, Golden Opportunity admitted that the Golden GFC69 does not comply with the applicable federal energy conservation standard.

FINDINGS

Based on the facts stated above, DOE has determined, after applying the calculations set forth in 10 C.F.R. Part 429, Subpart C, Appendix A, that the Golden GFC51 and the Golden GFC69 do not comply with the applicable federal energy conservation standard.

MANDATORY ACTIONS BY GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

In light of the above finding, Golden must take the following steps in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 429.114(a):

- (1) Immediately cease distribution in commerce in the United States of all units, regardless of label, within the Golden GFC51 and Golden GFC69 basic models;
- (2) Provide immediate written notification of this noncompliance determination to all persons in the United States to whom Golden Opportunity has distributed units, regardless of label, of the Golden GFC51 and the Golden GFC69 in the past three years; and
- (3) Provide to DOE within 15 calendar days of the date of this Notice a copy of the written notification required by paragraph (2) and a list of the parties that Golden Opportunity notified.

The response required by paragraph (3) must be dated, signed, and notarized, and must include a declaration under penalty of perjury that the contents of the responses are true. Specifically, the person signing the response must attest the following: "I declare under penalty of perjury that the statements contained in this response are true, correct, and complete."

If you claim that any of the information sought by this Notice constitutes confidential commercial material within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4), or is protected from disclosure pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1905, you must (1) provide one complete and full copy and one copy with the confidential information deleted and (2) submit supporting information together with the

██████████ informed DOE through compelled sales records that it sold model ██████████ to Golden Opportunity to be privately labeled and distributed in the United States as the Golden GFC69.

materials that are the subject of the confidentiality request. *See* 10 C.F.R. § 429.7. Failure to adhere to these procedures will result in a rejection of your request for confidential treatment.

OPTIONAL ACTIONS BY GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

In addition to the mandatory steps listed above that Golden Opportunity must complete, Golden Opportunity may elect to modify the Golden GFC51 and/or the Golden GFC69 to bring either or both into compliance with the applicable standard. Any modified basic model shall be treated as a new basic model under the regulations and must be certified in accordance with the provisions of 10 C.F.R. Part 429. Prior to distribution in commerce in the United States, Golden Opportunity must provide to DOE test data demonstrating that any modified basic model complies with the applicable standard. All units must be tested in accordance with DOE regulations, and Golden Opportunity shall bear the costs of all such testing that is conducted.

If, after this testing, DOE determines that any modified basic model complies with the applicable standard, DOE shall issue a Notice of Allowance to permit Golden Opportunity to resume the distribution of that modified basic model in the United States. Until DOE determines that the modified basic model complies with the applicable standard, no units of the basic model may be sold or otherwise distributed by Golden Opportunity in the United States.

CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS NOTICE

Should Golden Opportunity fail to cease immediately the distribution in the United States of all units, regardless of label, of the Golden GFC51 and the Golden GFC69 basic models, this letter serves as notice that DOE will seek a judicial order within 30 calendar days to restrain further distribution. If, however, Golden Opportunity provides DOE with a satisfactory statement within that 30-day period detailing the steps that Golden Opportunity will take to ensure that units of the noncompliant basic models will no longer be distributed in commerce in the United States, DOE may elect to defer seeking such an order until a more appropriate time, if needed.

The distribution of any units of a noncompliant basic model may result in DOE seeking all appropriate legal remedies available under federal law, including injunctive relief and civil penalties with respect to each unit of the basic model distributed in violation of federal law.

/s/

Laura L. Barhydt
Assistant General Counsel
for Enforcement