

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

In the Matter of:

USR Brands

(commercial refrigerators, freezers, and
refrigerator-freezers)

Case Number: 2023-CE-42003

ORDER

For the U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”):

1. On December 21, 2022, under the above-listed case number, DOE initiated a case against USR Brands (“Respondent”) to pursue a civil penalty for knowingly distributing in commerce in the United States basic models of commercial refrigerators and freezers without submitting to DOE a certification report certifying that those basic models complied with the applicable energy conservation standards.
2. Commercial refrigerators and freezers are covered equipment, as defined by 42 U.S.C. § 6311(1)(E) and 10 C.F.R. §§ 431.2 and 431.62.
3. Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 429.12, manufacturers are required to submit to DOE a certification report certifying that each basic model meets the applicable energy conservation standard, before distributing each basic model in commerce in the United States and annually thereafter.
4. Failure to submit a certification report for covered equipment in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 429.12 is a prohibited act pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 429.102(a)(1) and subject to civil penalties as described in 10 C.F.R. § 429.120.
5. Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 429.120, each day that a manufacturer fails to submit a certification report for a basic model is a separate violation.
6. Respondent admitted the following:
 - a. Respondent has manufactured¹ commercial refrigerators and freezers, including the following basic models in Respondent’s Coldline and Unity lines: D12-W and UC-60R (“the subject models”).

¹ “Manufacture” means to manufacture, produce, assemble, or import. 42 U.S.C. § 6291(10).

- b. Respondent has distributed in commerce² in the United States for at least 365 days, and continues to distribute, the subject models.
 - c. Respondent knowingly failed to submit a certification report for the subject models before distributing those models in commerce in the United States, in violation of 10 C.F.R. § 429.12.
7. Based on the information above, I find that Respondent knowingly committed Prohibited Acts by manufacturing and distributing in commerce basic models of covered equipment without submitting to DOE a certification report certifying that those basic models complied with the applicable energy conservation standards. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 6302; 10 C.F.R. §§ 429.102(a)(1).
8. Accordingly, pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 429.120 and 42 U.S.C. §§ 6303 and 6316, I **HEREBY ASSESS** a civil penalty of \$20,000 **AND ORDER** that the Settlement Agreement attached to this Order is adopted.

Samuel T. Walsh
General Counsel

² “Distribute in Commerce” or “Distribution in Commerce” means to sell in commerce, to import, to introduce or deliver for introduction into commerce, or to hold for sale or distribution after introduction into commerce. 42 U.S.C. § 6291(16).