

May 10, 2013

VIA EMAIL

Ms. Mariah Steele
ENERGY STAR Program
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 62023
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. Steele:

The U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) selected a Sunpentown-brand refrigerator, model RF-330SS, manufactured by Hefei Hualing Co., Ltd. (“Hefei Hualing”), for testing as part of DOE’s ENERGY STAR[®] Verification Testing Program. On October 24, 2012, DOE notified Sunpentown International, Inc. (“Sunpentown”) that the model did not meet the ENERGY STAR specification for maximum permitted annual energy use.

Hefei Hualing replied to DOE via email, first inquiring why DOE’s notification listed the model’s maximum permitted energy use as 242 kilowatt-hours per year (kWh/yr) rather than 267 kWh/yr. DOE replied via email on November 13, 2012, agreeing that the correct ENERGY STAR maximum permitted energy use is 267 kWh/yr. Even using this revised value, however, DOE’s test results indicate that the relevant model does not meet the ENERGY STAR specification.

On November 21, 2012, Hefei Hualing emailed DOE to report its planned next steps with respect to the tested model: (1) ceasing sale and shipment of the model with the ENERGY STAR mark, and (2) removing the ENERGY STAR mark on units within its control and the ENERGY STAR mark on all collateral materials such as product packaging, web pages, and other marketing materials associated with the model. Hefei Hualing also reported that it would take measures to improve the model for future release as an ENERGY STAR model.

Based on DOE’s test results, DOE has determined that Sunpentown-brand model RF-330SS, manufactured by Hefei Hualing, does not meet the relevant ENERGY STAR specification (267 kWh/yr). Accordingly, DOE is referring this matter to the Environmental Protection Agency, the brand manager for ENERGY STAR.

Please note that this letter is a revised version of the May 6, 2013 letter DOE sent regarding a Sunpentown-brand refrigerator model. This letter supercedes the May 6, 2013 letter.

Should you require any further information, please feel free to contact me at laura.barhydt@hq.doe.gov.

Sincerely,

/S/

Laura L. Barhydt
Assistant General Counsel
for Enforcement

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