November 8, 2004

The California Energy Commission
Docket Office
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Station 4
Sacramento, California 95814-5512

RE: Docket No. 04-AAER-1

Dear Commission Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to the Appliance Efficiency Regulations. The Home Depot sells over 50 percent of all the ceiling fans in North America. We operate 178 Home Depot stores and ten EXPO Design Centers in California.

The Home Depot disagrees with the commission’s recommendation that ceiling fans should be labeled with the unit’s airflow in cubic feet of air per minute (CFM) and the unit’s air flow efficiency in CFM/watt at high, medium and low speeds.

The company’s past experience with our customers does not lead us to believe that labels containing CFM/watt information are of any value. These are complex and technical issues. Our customers are already familiar with the federal Energy Star® Program and recognize that an Energy Star® logo on the packaging indicates they are purchasing an energy efficient product.

We also recommend that the "hugger fans" defined as "a ceiling fan style where the motor mounts directly to the ceiling and cannot be mounted using a down-rod" be excluded from the test and labeling requirement of the rule to be consistent with the national Energy Star Program.

CFM standards are impossible to measure on these types of fans. In order to test the CFM a fan must be hung at least 36 inches from the ceiling allowing a free flow of air between the blades and ceiling. This category of fans is especially important for low-income households for whom air conditioning is not an affordable option.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Kenton Knutson
Vice President of Government Relations
The California Energy Commission's Docket Unit has received your electronic filing.

The Docket Staff may contact you if there is a question or problem reading your submittal.

Normally, we try to have all submittals added to the Docket Master Log per docket project as soon as possible. Please note, however, that because of an increased workload, some items may take longer before they appear on the Commission's website.

Please note the following instructions only if your submittal is regarding a power plant siting project.*

According to recent changes in the California Energy Commission's Power Plant Siting Regulations, Section 1209, regarding Form of Submission states the following:

"... Formal filing may also be submitted electronically. Electronic copies shall be in the number, media, and format specified in Section 1209.5."

1209.5 (c) regarding Electronic Filings states: Electronic documents shall be provided in the Portable Document Format (PDF), or its equivalent, as determined by the Executive Director.

1209.5 (d) (2) "... Documents shall be delivered to the Docket Unit in the following way: electronic transfer (e-mail) of smaller documents (5MB maximum file size) to: docket@energy.state.ca.us..."

The Docket Unit will accept Word Documents, but please send PDF if possible.

There is still a requirement to mail submittals to the Docket Unit following your electronic transfer. Please send one (1) original copy with the original signature(s) and 11 copies for internal distribution via U.S. Postal Service or another courier service.

NOTE: Have your document(s) postmarked on the same date as the electronic transfer. Also, please indicate in a cover letter that you have filed your submittal electronically and the date of the electronic transfer to the Docket Unit.

The address to the Docket Unit is as follows:

California Energy Commission
Attn: Docket Unit
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

To obtain a copy of the new Siting regulations, please go to the Commission's website at www.energy.ca.gov

If you have further questions regarding docketing procedures, submittals or requests for data, please contact us at via e-mail at the above address or (916) 554-5076.

Thank you for your compliance.

California Energy Commission
Docket Staff