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

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| In the Matter of: | ) | |
| | ) | |
| **General Electric Appliances,** | ) | Case Number: 2010-CE-2113 |
| Respondent | ) | |
| | ) | |

## COMPROMISE AGREEMENT

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of the General Counsel initiated this action against General Electric Appliances ("Respondent") pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 430.74 by Notice of Proposed Civil Penalty alleging that Respondent had failed to submit a certification report and compliance statement for dehumidifiers. Respondent on behalf of itself and any parent, subsidiary, division or other related entity and DOE, by their authorized representatives, hereby enter into this Compromise Agreement for the purpose of settling this civil penalty action.

## I. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Compromise Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) "Act" means the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6291 *et seq.*

(b) "Adopting Order" means an Order of the General Counsel adopting the terms of this Compromise Agreement without change, addition, deletion, or modification.

(c) "DOE" means the U.S. Department of Energy.

(d) "DOE Rules" means DOE's energy conservation regulations found in Title 10, Part 430, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(e) "Notice" means the Notice of Proposed Civil Penalty issued by DOE to Respondent on September 8, 2010, and captioned as case number 2010-CE-2113.

(f) "Parties" means DOE and Respondent.

(g) "Respondent" means General Electric Appliances.

## II. RECITALS

WHEREAS, DOE, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 6291 *et seq.*, is responsible for the promulgation and enforcement of the energy conservation requirements set forth in DOE Rules; and

WHEREAS, DOE has promulgated energy conservation standards for dehumidifiers at 10 C.F.R. § 430.32 and requires manufacturers to submit information and reports to insure compliance with those standards at 10 C.F.R. § 430.62; and

WHEREAS, DOE, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 6296, 6302, & 6303 and 10 C.F.R. § 430.61, is authorized to assess civil monetary penalties for actions prohibited by the Act, including failing to make reports or provide other required information; and

WHEREAS, DOE, on September 8, 2010, initiated an action to assess a civil penalty for failure to certify dehumidifiers; and

WHEREAS, Respondent admits:

1. Respondent private labels and distributes dehumidifiers, including but not limited to basic models ADER30LN; ADER40LN; ADER50LN; and ADER65LN.
2. These products have been in distribution in the United States at least since July 6, 2010.
3. The manufacturer of dehumidifiers bearing Respondent's brand name emailed a certification report and compliance statement for these basic models of dehumidifiers to an individual staff member of DOE's Building Technologies Program on January 8, 2010.
4. Certification reports and compliance statements are to be submitted to the Department according to the process set forth in 10 C.F.R. 430.62.

WHEREAS, Respondent commits to certify its covered products according to the process set forth in 10 C.F.R. 430.62.

WHEREAS, DOE concludes that, given the efforts of the manufacturer of Respondent's branded models to fulfill its certification obligations, assessment of a civil penalty against Respondent is not warranted in this case.

WHEREAS, DOE, as the agency charged with developing and administering a balanced and coordinated national energy policy, concludes that, in light of the circumstances, this Compromise Agreement properly balances the policies recognized in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act and is the appropriate way to resolve this matter;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the mutual agreements set forth below, the sufficiency and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

## III. TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT

1. **Adopting Order.** The Parties agree that the provisions of this Compromise Agreement shall be subject to final approval by the General Counsel by incorporation of such provisions by reference in the Adopting Order without change, addition, modification, or deletion.
2. **Jurisdiction and Governing Law.** This Compromise Agreement is entered pursuant to DOE's authority to interpret and enforce its rules for energy efficiency and to enter into its own agreements interpreting and applying those rules. The Parties agree that DOE has

jurisdiction over Respondent and exclusive jurisdiction over the matters contained in this Compromise Agreement and has the authority to enter into this Compromise Agreement.

3. **Effective Date.** The Parties agree that this Compromise Agreement shall become effective on the date on which the General Counsel issues the Adopting Order. Upon release, the Adopting Order and this Compromise Agreement shall have the same force and effect as any other Order of the General Counsel. Any violation of the Adopting Order or of the terms of this Compromise Agreement shall constitute a separate violation of an agency Order, entitling DOE to exercise any rights and remedies attendant to the enforcement of an Agency Order.

4. **Waivers.** Respondent agrees not to seek judicial review or otherwise contest or challenge the validity of the terms and penalties set out in this Compromise Agreement or the Notice associated with this case, including any right to judicial review that may be available to the Respondent. If either Party (or the United States on behalf of DOE) brings a judicial action to enforce the terms of this Compromise Agreement, neither Respondent nor DOE shall contest the validity of the Compromise Agreement, and Respondent waives any statutory right to a trial *de novo*. Respondent hereby agrees to waive any claims it may otherwise have under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. § 504, relating to the matters addressed in this Compromise Agreement.

5. **Final Settlement.** The Parties agree and acknowledge that this Compromise Agreement shall constitute a final settlement between the Parties. This Compromise Agreement resolves only the violations alleged in the Notice.

6. **Merger.** This Compromise Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties and supersedes all previous understandings and agreements between the Parties, whether oral or written.

7. **Modifications.** This Compromise Agreement cannot be modified without the advance written consent of both Parties.

8. **Invalidity.** In the event that this Compromise Agreement in its entirety is rendered invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, it shall become null and void and may not be used in any manner in any legal proceeding.

9. **Authorized Representative.** Each party represents and warrants to the other that it has full power and authority to enter into this Compromise Agreement.

10. **Counterparts.** This Compromise Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts (including by facsimile), each of which, when executed and delivered, shall be an original, and all of which counterparts together shall constitute one and the same fully executed instrument.

Timothy G. Lynch
Deputy General Counsel for
Litigation and Enforcement
U.S. Department of Energy

22 September 2010
Date

Earl Jones
Senior Counsel
General Electric Appliances

September 22, 2010
Date