

## **Idiot's Guide to the Class Action Settlement**

### **Disclaimer**

We are not attorneys. We cannot give legal advice. This page is our understanding of William Turner v General Electric Class Action Settlement. It is your responsibility to read and understand the original Court published Summary Notice. If you have any questions about what it means to you, please contact Scott Weinstein. His contact information is at the end of this page.

### **What Does the Class Action Settlement Mean To You?**

The Class Action Settlement gives you certain rights. However, in order to participate, you also have certain responsibilities. We have written this overview to help you wade through the 'legalese' of the Settlement Agreement and Summary Notice. Please pay attention to the important deadlines for mailing your claim forms or opting out of the Settlement. The Court will not make any exceptions for missed deadlines, or 'the dog ate my claim form' excuses.

#### 1. What models are included in the Settlement Agreement?

There are 304 different model numbers included in the Settlement Agreement. These models are certain 20, 22, and 25 cubic foot GE and Hotpoint brand refrigerators manufactured between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2002.

**IG Note:** A complete list of the model numbers can be found [here](#).

#### 2. Who is included in the Settlement Class?

The Settlement Class includes anyone in the United States and District of Columbia who as of January 13, 2006 had purchased, previously owned, and/or currently owns a defective refrigerator model on the list.

#### 3. What are the benefits of the settlement?

Additional Warranty Protection for moisture related problems in the refrigerators for one year following the Notice Date (January 13, 2006 to January 12, 2007).

**IG Note:** This means one of two things:

- If your original warranty has expired, you now have a one year extended warranty effective January 13, 2006 through January 12, 2007 covering moisture related problems (listed under #4 below).
- If you purchased an extended warranty and it is still in effect, the one year extended warranty for moisture related problems (listed under #4 below), will take effect when your purchased warranty expires. In either case, you are entitled to warranty (free) repairs for moisture related problems.

Refrigerator Exchange for any class member whose refrigerator has required three or more Moisture-Related Service Calls and still has a Moisture-Related Problem.

**IG Note:** If you have had three moisture-related repairs before January 13, 2006 and your refrigerator still has any of the symptoms listed under #4, you are entitled to a free replacement refrigerator.

If you have had only one or two moisture-related repairs, and you have an extended warranty, you have until January 12, 2007 to order the third repair and file your claim for a refrigerator exchange. After the third repair, if your refrigerator still has any of the symptoms listed under #4, you are entitled to a free replacement refrigerator.

Reimbursement for the reasonable cost of Moisture-Related repairs (including parts and labor) charged to Settlement Class Members by:

- GE technician
- Authorized GE customer care servicer
- Qualified, licensed appliance repair technician.

**IG Note:** If you have paid for moisture-related repairs performed by any licensed service technician (even independent repair companies) between January 1, 2001 and January 13, 2006, submit a claim form to get your money back..

Reimbursement – to Settlement Class Members whose refrigerator required three or more unsuccessful Moisture-Related Service Calls between the date of purchase and December 9, 2005, and who, because of Moisture-Related Problems, have replaced their refrigerator during the period from the date of purchase until December 9, 2005, for the reasonable cost of the replacement refrigerator unit up to the amount of the purchase price of the original refrigerator.

**IG Note:** If you used to own one of the included models, but were aggravated into purchasing a replacement (at your own expense), you are entitled to reimbursement for the new refrigerator up to the original price of the old refrigerator.

#### 4. What is the definition of moisture-related problems?

Moisture related problems may result in, among other things:

- formation of excessive moisture, especially in the icemaker compartment, which causes among other things condensation, moisture or other deterioration. (water running down walls)
- wavering temperature controls (frozen foods are soft, and/or refrigerated food is either freezing or getting warm)
- excessive frost; and related problems (you could make a snow cone from the frost in your freezer)

5. What are the symptoms of moisture-related problems?

One or more of the following symptoms may be present:

- frost build-up in the freezer or the dispenser chute
- ice not dispensing at all
- ice cubes frozen together in a solid mass in the ice bucket
- auger in the ice bucket not turning
- water dripping from the door onto the base of the refrigerator compartments or onto the floor
- mold and/or rust in either the fresh or freezer compartment or on the door
- a noisy fan
- nonfunctional defrost heater
- crushed ice or only cubed ice.

7. When will the Settlement begin?

Notices to the Settlement Class will begin the week of January 13, 2006. If GE has your name and address, they will mail to you a Claim Form. GE will also have an advertising campaign in the following publications: Parade, USA Weekend, People magazine, Better Homes & Gardens, and Readers' Digest.

GE will have a website ([www.geappliances.com/classaction](http://www.geappliances.com/classaction)) to offer information about the Settlement, the Class Notice, the Claim Form, and contact information.

8. What are the deadline dates I must meet?

**March 14, 2006** Request for Exclusion Form must be postmarked by midnight

If you wish to be excluded from the Settlement Class, you must complete a Request for Exclusion form and mail it to the Claims Administrator.

**March 14, 2006** Notice of Intention to Appear and Object must be postmarked by midnight

If you remain a Settlement Class Member, you or your attorney have the right to appear before the Court and object to the Settlement. However, in order to object, you must file and serve a Notice of Intention to Appear and Object with the Court. A copy of any objection must also be mailed to Scott Wm. Weinstein, Edward M. Waller, Jr., and Charles Wachter. Their addresses appear below.

**April 13, 2006** Claim Forms must be postmarked by midnight for:

- Additional One Year Warranty Protection claim form
- Moisture-Related Service Calls claim form
- Additional Warranty Protection program claim form
- Reimbursement claim form

**April 27, 2006** Fairness Hearing and Settlement Final Approval

The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing to determine if the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and to confirm final certification and of the Settlement Class and to give final approval to the Settlement.

**January 12, 2007** Claim Forms must be postmarked by midnight for:

- Refrigerator Exchange claim form

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you have an existing service contract and you submitted a timely (no later than April 13, 2006) valid Claim for Additional Warranty Protection, the Claim Deadline for Refrigerator Exchange is the final day of your Additional Warranty Protection. For example, if you purchased and extended warranty, the Settlement extends that warranty for an additional year. You have until the last day of the one year extension to file your Refrigerator Exchange claim form, or you will lose your right to file a claim for a Refrigerator Exchange.

9. Where do I send my claim form(s)?

Claim Forms must be submitted by mail to:

GE Moisture Class Settlement  
2670 Executive Dr Ste A  
Indianapolis IN 46421

**IG Note:** We recommend you mail claim forms by Certified Mail/Return Receipt in order to have proof of meeting the deadline date requirements and proof that your claim form was received.

10. For information on the Settlement, your rights, and to obtain a copy of the Notice, Claim form, or Settlement Agreement:

Call 1-866-839-4463, or

Write: GE Moisture Class Settlement  
2670 Executive Drive, Suite A  
Indianapolis, In. 46421

Visit the website at [www.geappliances.com/classaction](http://www.geappliances.com/classaction)

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