

Darcy,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposed changes to the Energy Star program for Exit Signs.

I would like to strongly agree with your decision to keep the 15 cd/m² visibility rating associated with the Energy Star program. There are signs in the field (Tritium, electro-luminescent, photoluminescent, etc.) that have a much lower light level. In our opinion, these signs should be used in special applications (theaters, movie studios, etc) where the low visibility is actually desirable. In normal applications, they greatly reduce the ability to be seen.

We are not in favor of reducing the power requirement from 5 watts per face down to 3 watts for the unit. This power requirement would make it very difficult (and expensive) to produce a legible sign with this energy level. Looking at your website I see that there are signs that would meet this level (probably 25% as explained), however, combined with the power factor requirement I am not sure if any would meet this requirement. For instance, we have measured over 3 watts on one of our transformers itself. A transformer would be a given to get the power factor into the .7 or better you will require.

The power factor requirement may be overly restrictive.

NEMA is working on a response that is universally accepted by manufacturers. That letter should cover any additional issues.

Best Regards,

Eric Bailey
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