

Dear ENERGY STAR® Residential Light Fixture Partner or Interested Party,

As you may recall, EPA distributed a memo dated March 15, 2004 to industry stakeholders stating its intention to conduct further research on a number of performance characteristics not addressed in the revised Version 3.2 specification (a.k.a. Eligibility Criteria). In that letter, EPA anticipated a revised specification to become effective some time after mid-2005.

To ensure industry stakeholders have sufficient time to comment on draft revisions and a nine-month transition period before any finalized specification becomes effective, EPA has decided to begin the review process immediately following this notification. EPA plans to distribute a first revised specification draft for review and comment in August 2004 and hopes to finalize the new requirements by January 2005, for an Effective Date of October 2005.

As outlined in the March 15th memo, EPA is conducting research on the following key areas:

- Phase out of magnetic ballasts
- New technical requirements to address lamp color variance
- New removable ballast requirement

In addition, EPA is reviewing existing requirements for needed clarifications based on questions received from partners regarding testing, documentation, and reporting requirements.

In keeping with EPA policy, as part of the development process partners and other industry stakeholders will be given the opportunity to review and comment on any proposed specification revisions before implementation. All EPA correspondence and specification documents will be posted throughout the development process to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site at www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment (click on “Revisions to Existing Specifications”).

If you have any questions or concerns during this process please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9397 or shiller.david@epa.gov. I look forward to working with you to develop a specification that continues to reward superior energy efficiency and high quality in the marketplace.

Sincerely,



David Shiller, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for Residential Lighting Fixtures