



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

January 17, 2014

Dear ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> for Windows, Doors, and Skylights Manufacturers or Other Interested Parties:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the final ENERGY STAR Version 6.0 Residential Windows, Doors, and Skylights Specification. The final specification, the comments received on the final draft specification, the *Response to Comments on Final Draft Windows Criteria*, and the *Response to Door and Skylight Comments* are posted at: [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=revisions.residential\\_windows\\_spec](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=revisions.residential_windows_spec).

EPA thanks all of the stakeholders who provided comments during the specification revision process. Significant changes from the final draft are summarized below, along with information on next steps.

**Effective Date**

The ENERGY STAR Residential Windows, Doors, and Skylights Version 6.0 specification will take effect on January 1, 2015, with the exception of the Northern Zone prescriptive and equivalent energy performance criteria for windows, which will take effect on January 1, 2016.

EPA revised the implementation date for the Northern Zone window criteria in response to concerns expressed by some stakeholders about the industry's ability to have cost-effective, qualifying windows available in the Northern Zone by the originally proposed effective date. EPA believes that providing additional time will allow industry to increase product availability and identify cost-saving measures to further reduce incremental costs for consumers.

**Revisions to Skylight U-Factors in Most Zones**

Based on additional data provided by stakeholders, EPA has revised the U-factor maximum for skylights in the Northern Zone to 0.50. EPA received a number of specific examples documenting the potential incremental costs to achieve the U-factor originally proposed in the final draft criteria. The revised final criteria will improve product availability for both curb- and deck-mount skylights.

EPA has also revised the U-factor maxima for skylights in the North-Central Zone and South-Central Zone to 0.53. EPA revised these criteria based on commenter feedback indicating that a U-factor maximum of 0.53 will allow more venting curb-mount skylights to qualify, thereby improving product availability. In addition, aligning the South-Central U-factor maximum with the U-factor maximum in the North-Central Zone simplifies the specification, allowing manufacturers to qualify a single product over a larger geographic area.

### Ongoing Work to Support Version 6.0

EPA will begin the process of updating partnership materials to reflect the Version 6.0 changes in 2014. EPA will post the new materials to My ENERGY STAR Account ([www.energystar.gov/mesa](http://www.energystar.gov/mesa)) as they become available. Though the product qualification label templates will not be revised for the Version 6.0 specification, the labeling guidance will be updated and released to partners in advance of the criteria implementation date (as has been done after previous criteria revisions).

### Looking Ahead

EPA will begin working with stakeholders in 2014 to evaluate the criteria revision process for residential windows, doors, and skylights. The process will start with a public stakeholder meeting, either in person or via webinar, in the second half of the year. For the next criteria revision, EPA hopes to:

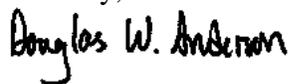
- Encourage greater industry participation and collaboration,
- Make the process clearer and more predictable, and
- Enhance the transparency of the analytical approaches used and the way in which the proposed criteria are developed and modified.

### Next Steps

Item	Date
Stakeholder Meeting to discuss criteria revision process for windows, doors, and skylights	Fall/Winter 2014
Version 6.0 Specification takes effect (except for Northern Zone window criteria)	January 1, 2015
Version 6.0 specification takes effect for Northern Zone window criteria	January 1, 2016

Again, EPA thanks our stakeholders for their participation in the Version 6.0 criteria revision process. EPA looks forward to working with our stakeholders in the next criteria revision process.

Sincerely,



Douglas W. Anderson  
Manager, ENERGY STAR for Windows, Doors, and Skylights Program