

## ENERGY STAR® RESIDENTIAL NEW CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS







## **Dear ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction Stakeholder,**

In December 2023, the EPA proposed and sought stakeholder comment on enhancements to the ENERGY STAR Certification System designed to improve the effectiveness of current quality assurance and quality control (QAQC) activities, give HCOs new tools to oversee participants operating in their ENERGY STAR certification programs, and ultimately create more confidence in the quality of ENERGY STAR certifications. Details on the original proposal are available in the Stakeholder Feedback tab in the Archives.

Today, the EPA is announcing a second comment period to solicit additional stakeholder feedback on three specific topics:

- 1. A revised proposal to require that quality control be completed on the most critical program elements prior to a home's certification, but streamlining that review scope to allow short turnaround times.
- 2. A revised proposal for the minimum rate of HCO direct file review, including an introductory ramp-up schedule.
- A new proposal to create differentiated credentials to perform quality control reviews for the ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes (SFNH) and Multifamily New Construction (MFNC) programs.

The second comment period commences today, April 15th, and will end on May 10th, 2024.

For full details in the companion document and the Stakeholder Feedback Form, visit the <u>ENERGY STAR</u> website.

EPA values the feedback of our ENERGY STAR partners and other program stakeholders and will consider all feedback received during the comment period. Please submit written comments on any aspect of this proposal to <a href="mailto:energystarhomes@energystar.gov">energystar.gov</a> using the provided Stakeholder Feedback Form. Note that all submitted comments will be posted on the ENERGY STAR website.

To learn more, please join the ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction team for a webinar exploring these topics. Slides will be posted online and a recording made available upon request.

ENERGY STAR QAQC Topics for the Second Comment Period Tuesday, April 23rd, 3:30-4 PM ET

To register, click here

Please feel free to forward this information to other interested stakeholders working in the residential new construction market. We appreciate your support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Best regards,

The ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction Team

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