



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

March 20, 2013

Dear Commercial Water Heater Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am pleased to inform you that the ENERGY STAR Version 1.0 Commercial Water Heater specification has been finalized. Your valuable feedback throughout the development process has been integral to the design of the final specification. This letter lays out the Agency's final decisions regarding these new requirements. With the release of this final specification, EPA welcomes ENERGY STAR partners to begin certifying products to these new requirements.

If all commercial water heaters sold in the United States met these new ENERGY STAR requirements, the savings in energy costs would be more than \$470 million each year and 6 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from more than 570,000 vehicles.

Comments in response to the Final Draft Version 1.0 specification were generally supportive. EPA did receive comment from one stakeholder challenging the appropriateness of an immediate effective date. Pursuant to statutes authorizing the ENERGY STAR program, EPA takes lead time into account both for a new or a significant revision to a product category. For new specifications, EPA believes that the four to six weeks lead time provided between a final draft and final specification is generally appropriate. In this case, more than three months have passed since the final draft.

The Final Version 1.0 Eligibility Criteria and Partner Commitments are attached for your reference. Previous draft proposals, stakeholder comments and comment responses are available on the Product Development website at www.energystar.gov/newspecs (Click on 'Commercial Water Heaters').

Effective Date and Deployment Timeline

EPA has established the following timeline for the implementation of the new Commercial Water Heater specification:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers new to the ENERGY STAR program may submit a Partnership Agreement and existing manufacturer partners may submit a new Participation Form to join@energystar.gov to initiate the application process for the Commercial Water Heater program. For information about this process, please visit www.energystar.gov/join.
- Third-party laboratories interested in obtaining EPA recognition for the ENERGY STAR Commercial Water Heater program are encouraged to begin the accreditation process with their accreditation body, if they have not already done so. First-party, un-accredited labs can conduct testing if they participate in a witnessed or supervised testing program run by a certification body (CB). For more information, please visit www.energystar.gov/testingandverification.
- A mandatory training session for CBs that wish to certify products to this Commercial Water Heater specification was held on February 07, 2013. CBs that participated in the training may be recognized by EPA prior to formal accreditation, and are encouraged to do so. EPA will inform qualified CBs of their recognition and post them to the ENERGY STAR website on the same day.

Manufacturers may then secure their services and begin working with the CBs to certify their products.

- CBs can find information about the XML_based QPX system at: www.energystar.gov/QPX. Please send any comments on the QPX system to certification@energystar.gov.

On behalf of EPA, I appreciate your participation in the development of this specification and I look forward to working with each of you as you qualify and promote your energy-efficient equipment. Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken, EPA, at daken.abigail@epa.gov or 202-343-9375 or Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at sarah.medepalli@icfi.com or 202-677-5201. Please direct questions about the test methods for water heaters to Ashley Armstrong at DOE, at 202-586-6590 or Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Abigail Daken".

Abigail Daken, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for HVAC