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Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 4:43 PM
To: energystarverificationprogram@energystar.gov
Cc: vokes.kathleen@epa.gov; Martin, Julian; Cormell, Scott
Subject: Questions

My name is Bill Walker and I work for the Hunter Fan Company. I attended the webinar on Monday, March 29, 2010 entitled Energy Star Enhanced Testing & Verification Stakeholder Call: Accreditation Bodies, Labs and Cert. Programs. There was much discussion surrounding verification testing at an accredited lab and some discussion regarding who would supervise accreditation (i.e. ILAC, A2LA, etc....) of labs. At Hunter we make ceiling fans, and our company had a large stake in the development of the energy star testing protocol for ceiling fans. Currently there are three labs in the world that are certified to perform energy star testing on ceiling fans. Intertek has one in Courtland, NY, UL has one in Taiwan, and Hunter has one in Memphis, TN. We do conduct round robin testing on an annual basis with the other two labs. My question is: with only three labs in existence in the world, why is accreditation by a third party necessary; especially if the three labs conduct annual round robin testing to ensure correlation between the labs. In this case, it doesn't make sense to for a third party to come in and charge us a fee to certify us to perform testing that we developed. This is adding unnecessary costs to our business. I fully understand the need for consistent test results between labs and fully support the round robin testing; however, I am not in support of our lab having to pay a fee in order to be accredited. Your response is appreciated.