



TO: Ann Bailey, Chief
ENERGY STAR Labeling Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

June 24, 2010

From: Jim Boldt
Vice President Engineering
Broan-NuTone LLC

Subject: Comments Relating to the ENERGY STAR Draft Certification and Verification Requirements

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the ENERGY STAR Products Draft Certification and Verification Requirements outlined in the June 4, 2010 Release.

Broan-NuTone has been a key participant in the development and revision of the ENERGY STAR Program for Ventilating Fans. The Ventilating Fan Program for many years has advanced the principles of Independent Third Party Qualification, Certification, Verification and Challenge Testing. These tenets provide protection to the consumers who purchase a Ventilating Fan product. We strongly believe that the ENERGY STAR Qualification, Verification and Challenge Testing must be done by an approved Independent Third Party Laboratory to insure the integrity and defensibility of the program.

We are concerned with the aggressive timeline noted in the Key Milestones for Implementing Qualification Testing Requirements of June 4, 2010. The timeline gives third party certifiers only 6 months to have their certification programs affirmed to ISO 65. For anyone who has certified processes, the timeline is significantly too short. I recommend as an alternative solution that the timeline for certification of the certification programs be extended to 24 months with requirements that at least once per quarter a status update be provided to EPA.

I would also like to comment on section 1) g) of the Conditions and Criteria for Recognition of Certification Bodies for the ENERGY STAR Program. Section 1) g) requires the certification body to become an internal manufacturing process auditor similar to ISO9000 requirements. This is an unrealistic and onerous condition. Internal manufacturing processes are both detailed in nature and confidential at most facilities. To expect a performance certification entity to have the experience, knowledge or staff to accomplish this is misguided. The purpose of the Verification and Challenge aspect of the revised ENERGY STAR program is to police the industry to insure compliance. How the manufacturer internally insures that their product meets the criteria for certification should be of no concern. We strongly oppose the conditions outlined in section 1) g).

Thank you again for consideration of my comments.