

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

January 14, 2003

Dear Exit Sign Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

EPA welcomes your input on the following **Draft 2** Version 3.0 specification for ENERGY STAR[®] qualified Exit Signs. This five-page document outlines the product criteria and testing procedure that manufacturers will need to abide by in order to qualify products for the ENERGY STAR label.

We would like to sincerely thank everyone that took the time to review and provide comments on the Draft 1 specification, released in October. These thoughtful remarks were of great assistance in modifying the document for the Draft 2 release. We have updated the note boxes throughout the Draft 2 specification, and we hope that these explanations will help summarize the comments EPA heard from industry, as well as shed light on EPA's rationale for any important changes. In addition, please note we have included a two-page document that summarizes the major changes from the Draft 1 specification.

We hope that you will agree that the revision of this specification has been an open process in which industry has been engaged and their opinions heard. The exchange of ideas and information among EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR, and to a large degree, determines the direction in which the program heads. To that end, the largest change you will notice in this second draft specification is the removal of criteria which effectively precluded ENERGY STAR qualification of photoluminescent and self-luminous exit signs. EPA has carefully considered all comments received and has determined that the safety of these products is best addressed by national, international, and local building codes and industry standards developed by experts. We understand that further discussion on this decision will likely be warranted, and are eager to review any documentation that industry will submit on this topic.

We sincerely encourage you to review the second draft specification and provide comments by February 14, 2003. Comments should be sent to Darcy Hoffmeyer of ICF Consulting at dhoffmeyer@icfconsulting.com. Please note that there are many areas throughout this Draft 2 specification where industry input is requested. All comments will be reviewed and considered carefully during the revision process. So that this process remains transparent and open to all who are interested, all comments will be posted on the ENERGY STAR Web site for review, unless the submitter requests that their comments remain confidential. If you support the draft specification, or do not wish to comment, please state this in writing. It is equally important that

EPA understand which portions of the draft specification meet with industry approval, in addition to identifying the sections that may need further revision.

In the coming months, EPA will continue to gather industry feedback on this second draft and will issue additional draft specifications as necessary. It is EPA's intention to finalize the revised product specification as soon as discussions with industry are finalized. The final specification will be issued as part of EPA's Partnership Agreement, which provides additional information for the partner such as Logo Use Guidelines and Qualified Product Information (QPI) forms. Existing partners who wish to continue their partnership in ENERGY STAR for Exit Signs under the Version 3.0 specification should inform EPA of their intention in writing.

Thank you for taking the time to review this draft specification. I look forward to working with you during the next few months. For more information about ENERGY STAR, please visit our Web site at www.energystar.gov. To track the progress of ENERGY STAR for Exit Signs:

Click on "Find Products."

Click on "Products in Development."

From the drop-down menu or left navigation bar, choose "Exit Signs."

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Fanara', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrew Fanara
EPA Program Manager
ENERGY STAR for Exit Signs