

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

December 1, 2009

Dear ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Light Commercial HVAC Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to provide you with the final Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Light Commercial HVAC specification. This letter describes EPA's final decisions regarding these new requirements and outlines the process for qualifying products under the new specification.

The Version 2.0 specification was developed through a process that included release of three draft specifications and stakeholder input and discussions. The enclosed Comment Response document contains a summary of feedback received on the Final Draft specification and EPA's response to each stakeholder comment. Previous drafts of the specification, stakeholder comments, and related materials are available on EPA's ENERGY STAR Web site at [www.energystar.gov/RevisedSpecs](http://www.energystar.gov/RevisedSpecs). Click on the "Light Commercial HVAC" link.

The effective date for Version 2.0 Tier 1 requirements is May 1, 2010. EPA will revisit this Version 2.0 specification and propose Tier 2 requirements to be effective on July 1, 2011 through an open stakeholder process beginning in 2010.

Key changes to the Version 2.0 specification since the Final Draft specification are summarized below:

- **Reference Dates for Test Standards:** Based on suggestions from stakeholders, EPA has referenced specific years for AHRI standards in this Version 2.0 specification (i.e., AHRI standards 210/240-2008, 340/360-2007, and 1230-2009).
- **Enhanced Product Verification Requirements:** EPA intends to include enhanced verification requirements under Tier 2 and has included language in the final Version 2.0 specification to inform stakeholders of its intent. When revisiting the specification in 2010, EPA will invite stakeholders to participate in a stakeholder process specific to verification testing. Like with ENERGY STAR specification development stakeholder processes, EPA will share proposals with stakeholders, seek their feedback, and through a series of documents and discussions, develop final plans for verification and enhanced qualification procedures.

#### **Partnering Under the Version 2.0 Specification**

Existing ENERGY STAR Partners: To continue your partnership with ENERGY STAR under Version 2.0, please complete and submit the enclosed Commitment Form. Check the box next to "Light Commercial HVAC" on page 1 to indicate your intent to partner in this product area. Existing partners must recommit to the Version 2.0 specification by May 1, 2010 to maintain uninterrupted partner status. Please send your completed Commitment Form to [join@energystar.gov](mailto:join@energystar.gov).

New ENERGY STAR Partners: As of January 1, 2010, manufacturers wishing to join the ENERGY STAR Light Commercial HVAC program must join under the Version 2.0 Program Requirements.

Manufacturers that are not currently ENERGY STAR partners will need to complete and submit both a Partnership Agreement and a Commitment Form (packaged together as a “Manufacturer Partnership Agreement Packet” on the ENERGY STAR Web site). This Partnership Agreement only needs to be signed once. Afterward, you may expand your partnership into additional product areas, as applicable, by submitting an updated Commitment Form.

The Partnership Agreement can be found on the ENERGY STAR Web site at [www.energystar.gov/join](http://www.energystar.gov/join). Click on “Manufacturers of ENERGY STAR Qualified Products.”

### **Qualifying Products for ENERGY STAR**

Based on stakeholder input, EPA will allow product qualifications under the Version 1.0 specification through December 31, 2009. Current partners that have tested products and confirmed their qualification under the Version 1.0 specification may submit Qualified Product Information (QPI) forms to EPA up until December 31, 2009. Beginning January 1, 2010, EPA will no longer accept QPI forms for new product submittals under the Version 1.0 specification.

Once the Version 2.0 specification takes effect on May 1, 2010, all ENERGY STAR qualified light commercial HVAC models will be required to meet the new Version 2.0 Tier 1 levels. Models that were initially qualified under Version 1.0 that do not meet the Version 2.0 Tier 1 requirements will be removed from the ENERGY STAR Web site. Manufacturers must also cease using the ENERGY STAR mark on equipment manufactured on or after May 1, 2010 on products that do not meet the Version 2.0 requirements. Models that are re-designed and re-tested to meet the new Version 2.0 Tier 1 requirements must be submitted to EPA using a new QPI form. EPA will provide additional guidance regarding EPA’s plan to transition to the new Version 2.0 specification over the coming months.

EPA thanks stakeholders who provided feedback during the specification revision process and looks forward to working with you to qualify and market your energy-efficient HVAC products. If you have any questions or concerns about the specification or partnership process, please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9123 or [Ryan.Steven@epa.gov](mailto:Ryan.Steven@epa.gov).

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,



Steve Ryan  
ENERGY STAR for Light Commercial HVAC Equipment