

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

November 10, 2009

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Ventilating Fan Partner or Other Interested Party:

EPA is issuing this memorandum to clarify the definition of working speed and the maximum eligible speed for range hoods in the Version 2.2 ENERGY STAR Residential Ventilating Fans specification.

The Version 2.2 specification defines working speed for range hoods as:

“The lowest speed at or above 100 CFM for a two-speed fan and a low setting above 90 CFM for a multi-speed fan as defined in HVI 916.”

However, to be consistent with HVI 916, this should read:

“The lowest speed at or above 90 CFM for a two-speed fan or 100 CFM for a multi-speed or infinitely variable speed fan, as defined in HVI 916.”

In other words, **the “90” and “100” are backwards in the specification, and should be reversed for the purpose of interpreting the specification and qualifying residential range hoods.** Also, infinitely variable speed fans are subject to the same working speed definition as multi-speed fans.

On a related note, EPA has revised the Residential Ventilating Fans Qualified Product Information (QPI) form such that the “Number of Speeds” field now applies not only to bathroom/utility room fans and inline fans, but to range hoods, as well. For your convenience, please find the updated QPI form attached. This form is also available at the Ventilating Fans for Partners page on the ENERGY STAR Web site.

Regarding the maximum speed permitted for range hoods under the Version 2.2 specification, EPA would like to clarify that to be eligible for ENERGY STAR qualification, a range hood’s *maximum speed*, not *working speed*, may not surpass 500 CFM. However, the specification’s CFM/W requirements (Table 1) and sone requirements (Table 4) apply to a range hood’s *working speed*.

Please note that after examining the residential ventilating fans qualified products list, EPA has determined that these clarifications do not result in the disqualification of any ENERGY STAR qualified residential ventilating fans.

Please direct any questions or comments to Andrew Fanara at fanara.andrew@epa.gov or Joshua Forgotson, ICF International, at jforgotson@icfi.com.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Fanara".

Andrew Fanara, EPA
ENERGY STAR Product Manager