



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

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

March 31, 2011

Dear ENERGY STAR® Residential Ventilating Fan Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has finalized the Version 3.0 Residential Ventilating Fan product specification, which will take effect on October 1, 2011. This specification change was prompted by the need to align its lighting requirements with those of the new ENERGY STAR Luminaire specification. As of the effective date, all ventilating fans must be certified by an EPA-recognized Certification Body (CB) in order to continue carrying the label. This letter describes changes made since the last draft, lays out next steps and provides information about a new certified lighting subcomponent database which is under development.

EPA reviewed and considered several stakeholder comments on the Draft version, including the following:

- **Lamp Shipment Requirement:** A request was made to allow manufacturers the *option* of shipping lamps within the same packaging as the ventilating fan, as opposed to a requirement. However, since the lamp is a key determinant of energy efficiency performance under the Luminaires Version 1.0 specification, EPA will require that it be certified and shipped as part of the qualifying combination unit.
- **Non-Directional Lighting Testing Requirements:** EPA received several questions regarding the testing of non-directional light sources, which includes ventilating fan lighting. To clarify, qualification for this product type is based on source photometry instead of luminaire photometry. This greatly reduces the testing burden on manufacturers and provides a level playing field in regards to the evaluation of the light source energy efficiency. Once qualified, manufacturers then have the option of applying a variety of lenses to the fixture to meet consumer needs.
- **International Harmonization:** There is some interest in evaluating range hood air flow and lighting efficiencies using the same approach as proposed under the European Regulation for Energy Label of Range Hoods. EPA is interested in learning more about this proposed approach and following efforts by the European Commission to finalize and implement this standard. EPA will more closely evaluate this and other range hood proposals, including units that offer a recirculation requirement and higher cfm range hoods during the next revision process.

Changes reflected in to the Final Version 3.0 Eligibility Criteria compared to the previously distributed Draft version are limited to: (1) moving definitions for ventilating fan light sources under Combination Unit in Section 1.B; (2) the addition of a statement that light sources are required to meet Luminaires Version 1.0 warranty requirements; and (3) further clarification regarding rounding rules for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification presented in Section 3.F. The lighting performance requirements in the Version 3.0 Residential Ventilating Fan specification are identical to those in the Version 1.0 Luminaires specification. Please note that the Partner Commitments previously distributed with the Version 2.3 Eligibility Criteria remain unchanged.

EPA shares its Partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification version to the next, with the objective of meeting consumer expectations that ENERGY STAR labeled products fully

meet the latest requirements in effect upon their date of purchase. With this in mind, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their CB certify their ventilating fans to the Residential Ventilating Fan Version 3.0 requirements.
- After June 15, 2011, CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals with light sources to the existing Version 2.3 specification. Note, however, that models already qualified to Version 2.3 will maintain their qualification status until October 1, 2011.
- As of October 1, 2011 all currently qualified ENERGY STAR ventilating fans must be third-party certified in order to maintain their label. Since the fan requirements have not changed, fan certification to Version 2.3 requirements (now found in the V3 specification) will remain valid. All certifications of ventilating fan lighting to the Version 2.3 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification, and CBs will only submit to EPA product models certified to Version 3.0.

As a reminder, effective January 1, 2011 all *new* products must be certified by an EPA-recognized CB before being labeled and marketed as ENERGY STAR qualified. Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the Partner that the product is ENERGY STAR qualified and will submit qualified product data to EPA for listing on the ENERGY STAR website. For more information on the Third-Party Certification program please visit [www.energystar.gov/3rdpartycert](http://www.energystar.gov/3rdpartycert).

#### **New Certified Lighting Subcomponent Database**

To support partner efforts in qualifying ventilating fan lighting to the Version 1.0 Luminaires requirements the Agency is currently compiling the Certified Lighting Subcomponent Database, to replace the [NEMA/ALA Lamp and Ballast Platform Matrix](#), and the [EPA Approved Platform Database](#). The new Database, which will include GU24 based integrated lamps, will be operational this spring and hosted on the ENERGY STAR website at [www.energystar.gov/lightingsubcomponents](http://www.energystar.gov/lightingsubcomponents).

Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken at EPA, [daken.abigail@epa.gov](mailto:daken.abigail@epa.gov) or (202) 343-9375 and Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at [smedepalli@icfi.com](mailto:smedepalli@icfi.com) or (202) 862-1268. Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,



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