

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

May 4, 2009

Dear ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Ventilating Fan Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

Following the release of the Final Version 2.1 Residential Ventilating Fan specification on January 15, 2009, EPA received several stakeholder comments pertaining to multi-speed fans and range hood configurations. As a result of further investigation into these concerns, EPA has amended the Version 2.1 specification to provide additional guidance regarding the testing, qualification, and verification processes for these product types.

The attached Version 2.2 specification includes the following revisions:

- **Multi-Speed Fans:** Multi-speed bathroom, utility room, and in-line fans that have a rotary speed dial, or similar mechanism that allows for a theoretically infinite number of speeds between minimum and maximum, must be tested and meet efficacy and sound level requirements at: (1) minimum speed; (2) maximum speed; and, (3) a speed half-way between minimum and maximum. EPA has added this language to accommodate the inability of these fans to be tested “at each speed,” as prescribed in the January 15 memorandum. EPA believes that qualifying and reporting fan efficacy and sound level at these three speeds will meet consumer expectations.

Furthermore, the specification now stipulates that multi-speed bathroom, utility room, and in-line fans that were qualified prior to January 15, 2009, but not tested at each required speed, will remain qualified through September 30, 2009. As of October 1, these models will no longer be considered ENERGY STAR qualified and will be removed from the Qualified Product list unless they are retested and meet the requirements of the Version 2.2 specification at each required speed. EPA has added this amendment because the previous Version 2.0 required fans to be tested at only one speed.

- **Verification Testing of Multi-Speed Fans and Range Hoods with Multiple Configurations:** Multi-speed bathroom, utility room, and in-line fans must undergo verification testing at any *one* speed at which the product was originally qualified. Similarly, range hoods must undergo verification testing at any *one* configuration reported for initial ENERGY STAR qualification. The purpose of this amendment is to alleviate the burden the Partner would incur were EPA to require that all testing performed pursuant to the original qualification of the product also be performed during verification testing.
- **Modifications to Product Classification:** EPA has modified Table 1, “Criteria for ENERGY STAR Qualified Residential Ventilating Fans – Minimum Efficacy Levels.” It now reads, “Bathroom and Utility Room Fans – 10 to 89 cfm.” Originally, the category covered bathroom and utility room fans between 10 and 80 cfm,” with the next category beginning at 90 cfm, because the specification called for rounding cfm down to the nearest 10 cfm. This Version 2.2 requires rounding cfm down to the nearest whole cfm, necessitating this change to Table 1. Similar changes have been made to Table 4, “Criteria for ENERGY STAR Qualified Residential Ventilating Fans – Maximum Allowable Sound Levels.”

EPA wishes to thank all stakeholders who provided feedback on the Final Version 2.2 Residential Ventilating Fan specification and throughout the revision process. If you have any questions or concerns about the amended Version 2.2 specification, please feel free to contact me at [fanara.andrew@epa.gov](mailto:fanara.andrew@epa.gov).

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

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

Andrew Fanara, EPA  
ENERGY STAR Product Manager

Enclosed:

- Final Version 2.2 ENERGY STAR Ventilating Fan Specification; and,
- Qualified Product Information form.