December 20, 2016

Dear ENERGY STAR® Commercial Packaged Boiler Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to provide you with the Final Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR Commercial Packaged Boilers specification. EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who contributed valuable feedback to inform this specification. Manufacturers may begin certifying their products as ENERGY STAR effective immediately.

Commercial packaged boilers that meet the Version 1.0 performance requirements offer end-users as much as 15% in energy savings and about $1,150 in energy cost savings per year when compared to non-condensing baseline models. If all applicable commercial packaged boilers sold in the United States were ENERGY STAR certified, the energy cost savings would grow to more than $1 billion and 23 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions of over 2 million vehicles.

EPA received minimal feedback in response to the final draft specification, issued on November 14, 2016, and is publishing the final specification without further change.

In response to the final draft, EPA received a comment reiterating a concern that the ENERGY STAR program’s value may be limited for these non-consumer products, considering energy efficiency incentives are already offered for high efficiency commercial packaged boiler systems. However, even where incentives were previously available, EPA has seen the label carry significant weight for other commercial product categories added over the years. EPA maintains that the energy and monetary savings associated with high efficiency boiler products will incentivize end-users to acquire ENERGY STAR certified models in the commercial applications this specification targets.

Another comment reiterated a concern about the turndown ratio requirement. EPA included this requirement to capture the efficiency impact of enabling the boiler to operate at part load conditions, when applicable. While EPA understands the concern that the referenced tests, UL 795 or ANSI Z21.13-2014/CSA 4.9, are designed primarily to verify safety, they do so by confirming turndown ratio and thus are viable for use in demonstrating efficiency possible through part load operation. EPA acknowledges that system design affects part load operation, but notes that the turndown ratio is most relevant in simple one- and two-boiler systems, where the ENERGY STAR mark is likely to be most influential. Therefore, EPA maintains the inclusion of this criterion for ENERGY STAR certification.

All Version 1.0 specification development materials are available on EPA’s ENERGY STAR website, which can be accessed at www.energystar.gov/specifications (click on the Commercial Boilers link).
Design Guide
In parallel with finalizing this specification, EPA continues to develop a system design guide intended for commercial packaged boiler end-users to offer education regarding the opportunities for efficient boiler systems. EPA will distribute a draft version of the design guide for stakeholder comment prior to final publication.

Third-Party Certification
Effective immediately, manufacturers may begin the certification process for commercial packaged boilers. All new products must be certified by an EPA-recognized certification body (CB) before being labeled and marketed as ENERGY STAR. Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the Partner that the product is ENERGY STAR certified and will submit certified 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.

Please note that ENERGY STAR partnership as a manufacturer is limited to organizations that own and/or license a brand name under which they sell eligible products in the United States and/or Canada. Partnership is not available to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that do not sell directly to end-users. OEMs may certify products on behalf of the ENERGY STAR brand owners/licensees; however, the brand owner must be the ENERGY STAR partner associated directly with the certified product models, since only partners are authorized to use the ENERGY STAR certification mark.

On behalf of EPA, I appreciate your participation in the development of this specification and look forward to working with each of you as you certify and promote your energy-efficient products. Please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9375 and Daken.Abigail@epa.gov or Adam Spitz, ICF, at (916) 231-7685 and Adam.Spitz@icf.com with any questions regarding this specification or the ENERGY STAR partnership.

Sincerely,

Abigail Daken
EPA Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for HVAC