February 21, 2018

Dear ENERGY STAR® Ventilating Fans Brand Owner or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is amending the ENERGY STAR Ventilating Fans specification. In an effort to promote balanced ventilation, EPA proposes to include supply fans in scope for ENERGY STAR certification in addition to the exhaust-only ventilation currently covered. The changes will be reflected in a Version 4.1 and will not affect currently-certified models.

Draft Proposals
To accommodate this expansion, EPA has updated scope and definitions for supply fans, and proposes that they meet the efficacy requirement specified for in-line fans at 3.8 cfm/W. For supply fans that are tested with a filter in place, EPA proposes a less stringent efficacy requirement of 3.7 cfm/W to accommodate the expected reduction in performance due to static pressure associated with the filter.

In addition, EPA has updated test method references and revised the lighting requirements to simply refer to the requirements of the ENERGY STAR Luminaires Eligibility Criteria, given that they now include the option to certify with an ENERGY STAR certified bulb. Consistent with the current practice, products with lighting that are selected for verification testing will continue to be verified against the specification to which they were originally certified.

Finally, EPA has proposed reporting requirements for efficacy and sounds levels at higher external static pressure for some subcategories. These requirements would be applicable to new certifications beginning once the Version 4.1 specification is finalized. Note boxes are provided throughout the Draft Version 4.1 specification for more details on all of these updates.

Stakeholder Meeting
EPA will host a stakeholder webinar to discuss these changes on March 8, 2018 at 1 p.m. EST. If you'd like to participate in the discussion, please register prior to the webinar here. Stakeholders are encouraged to inform EPA of any industry events that may conflict with this proposed date.

Comment Submittal Process
If you have comments or concerns about this change, please submit them by March 21, 2018 to VentilatingFans@energystar.gov. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development webpage unless the submitter requests otherwise. Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken at EPA, Daken.Abigail@epa.gov or 202-343-9375, and Jacob Bayus at ICF, Jacob.Bayus@icf.com or 202-791-8871. Barring any objections from stakeholders, EPA
expects to finalize Version 4.1 by April 2018, at which point, in-line supply fans may immediately be certified to the specification.

Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,

Abigail Daken, Manager
ENERGY STAR HVAC Program