

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

May 5, 2017

Dear Room Air Conditioner Brand Owner or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Energy (DOE) are pleased to share the Final Draft ENERGY STAR Test Method to validate Demand Response capabilities of Room Air Conditioners with connected functionality. EPA and DOE would like to thank the multiple stakeholders who have invested time and effort to inform the development of this test method. Following the publication of the Version 4.0 Room Air Conditioner specification with optional connected criteria, DOE and EPA worked with stakeholders to source products that could inform the drafting of this Demand Response Test Method. Once finalized, this Test Method can be applied at the option of Room Air Conditioner partners wishing to have their Room Air Conditioner identified as having connected functionality on the ENERGY STAR Product Finder and/or wishing to make use of the 5% allowance. Going forward, the final Demand Test Method will be required for any new Room Air Conditioner listings for which the brand owner wishes to designate the product as connected. In addition, use of the 5% credit towards the efficiency performance requirement will be an option for products validated using the test.

The stakeholder input submitted in response to the draft test method was supportive, including agreement with elements of the approach that EPA and DOE sought comment on, and a request for the Test Method to be finalized expediently. The final draft Test Method and accompanying comment response document incorporate stakeholders' technical questions on topics including: confirming receipt of the signal from a utility equivalent communication device; access to the test unit's set temperature; and clarification regarding how to check the set temperature when the unit's display reverts to the ambient temperature. One commenter noted that if a manufacturer chooses the multi-sample approach for ENERGY STAR certification, only one unit should be required to verify the demand response testing. EPA agrees that only one unit is necessary for demand response testing during certification, and therefore only one unit should be verified. EPA will inform certification bodies in a separate clarification.

Any final comments on the Test Method may be submitted via email by May 26, 2017 to appliances@energystar.gov. All comments received will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Room Air Conditioner Product Development [Webpage](#), unless the submitter requests otherwise.

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, DOE and stakeholders is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. Please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9464 or fiffer.melissa@epa.gov or Bryan Berringer at (202) 586-0371 or bryan.berringer@ee.doe.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Fiffer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melissa" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Fiffer".

Melissa Fiffer, Product Manager

ENERGY STAR Appliances