



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

November 17, 2014

Dear ENERGY STAR® Furnace Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

In light of the finalization of the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Final Rule on residential furnace fans test method, this letter relays the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) intention to amend Version 4.0 of the ENERGY STAR Furnace specification to adopt the new furnace efficiency metric FER.

On January 3, 2014, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued the final rule on residential furnace fans test method, introducing a new Fan Energy Rating (FER) metric. The current Version 4.0 specification includes a furnace fan efficiency requirement, (e) of less than or equal to 2.0%. EPA intends to set an FER level equivalent to the Version 4.0 requirement, such that currently qualified products may remain qualified. In order to inform FER level setting, EPA requests that stakeholders submit the following data for ENERGY STAR furnaces tested to the revised federal Furnace Fan Test Method:

- Furnace Model Number
- Product Type (single stage, two stage or multi-stage [or modulating])
- Q_{Max} (airflow at the maximum airflow-control setting operating point), CFM
- Input Rating, MBtuH
- Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE)
- Furnace Fan Efficiency (e)
- Fan Energy Rating (FER), Watts/CFM

All data will be assembled and analyzed in a masked dataset. Please send any data via email to furnaces@energystar.gov by December 21, 2014. Stakeholders are also encouraged to send any comments that may help EPA set an appropriate FER level. After consideration of this data and feedback, EPA will release for comment a proposed FER level. After considering any comments on this proposal, EPA will publish the revised ENERGY STAR Furnace specification in Spring/Summer 2015 and it will be effective immediately for certifying new products.

To track EPA's progress in adopting this new furnace fan metric, visit the ENERGY STAR website at www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs (click on the Furnaces).

Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken, EPA, at daken.abigail@epa.gov or 202-343-9375 and Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at sarah.medepalli@icfi.com or 202-677-5201. For test procedure inquiries, please contact Ashley Armstrong (DOE) at (202) 586-6590 or ashley.armstrong@ee.doe.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Abigail Daken".

Abigail Daken, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for HVAC