



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

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

April 21, 2017

Dear ENERGY STAR® Furnaces Brand Owner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

With this letter the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is finalizing the Version 4.1 amendments to the ENERGY STAR Furnaces specification. Furnace models previously certified to Version 4.0 are not affected by this change.

These amendments remove the furnace fan efficiency (“e”) requirement and replace it with the requirement that all ENERGY STAR furnaces must be equipped with an electronically commutated fan motor (ECM), encompassing both constant torque and constant airflow designs. The requirements in the final Version 4.1 specification have not changed from those proposed on March 24th.

EPA received a few comments on the Version 4.1 proposal. One stakeholder supports the ECM requirement, while another is not in favor of EPA adopting a technology-dependent requirement. EPA acknowledges the comment, but has determined that requiring ENERGY STAR furnaces be equipped with an ECM is the best path for the program to recognize efficiency and ensure consumer savings at present. EPA will consider adoption of the FER metric for fan efficiency when more data is available. Another stakeholder asked that the definition of “ECM” in the specification explicitly include both constant torque and constant airflow designs. EPA agrees it was possible to misinterpret the definition without this inclusion, and has modified it accordingly. All stakeholder comments, the draft specification, and related materials are now available on EPA’s ENERGY STAR Furnaces [product development webpage](#).

EPA thanks stakeholders who provided feedback during the specification revision process. Please direct any questions to Abigail Daken at EPA, [Daken.Abigail@epa.gov](mailto:Daken.Abigail@epa.gov) or 202-343-9375 and Jacob Bayus at ICF, [Jacob.Bayus@icf.com](mailto:Jacob.Bayus@icf.com) or 202-791-8871.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abigail Daken".

Abigail Daken, Manager  
ENERGY STAR HVAC Program