



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

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

December 29, 2014

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

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am pleased to inform you that the ENERGY STAR® Version 4.0 Residential Ventilating Fan specification has been finalized. Your valuable feedback throughout the development process has been integral to the design of the final specification. This letter summarizes stakeholder feedback on the Final Draft and outlines the transition process to the new Version 4.0 specification, which will take effect on October 1, 2015.

The Version 4.0 specification will distinguish highly efficient, quiet and capable residential ventilating fans that can save consumers \$100 over their lifetime. The specification encourages a broader selection of ENERGY STAR ventilating fans for consumers by allowing partners more flexibility in lighting and (for range hoods) design, while delivering significantly greater fan efficiency. If all residential ventilating fans sold in the United States met these requirements, energy cost savings would grow to more than \$300 million each year and 3 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from nearly 325,000 vehicles.

**Summary of Stakeholder Comments**

Stakeholders reiterated comments that the efficacy requirements proposed for bathroom and in-line fans will likely result in decreased consumer choice of ENERGY STAR certified products in the market if implemented on the proposed time scale. After a thorough evaluation of product availability, EPA continues to believe that there will be a sufficient variety of ENERGY STAR certified models available to consumers that will meet the revised efficacy levels. EPA reminds stakeholders that the primary purpose of the 9 months provided for transition is to allow for the updating of collateral materials. EPA also allows for use of already printed cartons and product literature during this period. In rare cases, there are extenuating circumstances such as alignment with a federal minimum efficiency standard change or the introduction of a new and complicated test method that warrant additional time for a smooth transition, which do not pertain in this case. As such, EPA has not made any changes to the efficacy requirements or transition timeline in this Final specification.

Additional comments are addressed in the comment matrix.

A complete Ventilating Fan Program Requirements document, including the Final Version 4.0 Eligibility Criteria and existing Partner Commitments, is available on the ENERGY STAR Product Development website at [www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs](http://www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs) (click on the Ventilating Fan Version 4.0 link).

### **Transition Timeline and Next Steps**

EPA shares partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification version to the next, such that ENERGY STAR labeled products meet the latest requirements in effect at the time of sale and that partners have time to transition their collateral material. With this in mind, and consistent with approaches taken for other product categories, EPA is sharing the following timeline for ventilating fans:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 4.0 requirements.
- On May 15, 2015, CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to the existing Version 3.0 specification requirements. Note, however, that existing certifications to Version 3.0 will remain valid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until September 30, 2015.
- Any ventilating fan manufactured as of October 1, 2015, must meet Version 4.0 requirements to bear the ENERGY STAR mark. All certifications of products to the Version 3.0 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification and CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 4.0 to EPA.

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/testingandverification](http://www.energystar.gov/testingandverification).

On behalf of EPA, I appreciate your participation in the development of this specification and I look forward to working with each of you as you certify and promote your energy-efficient equipment. Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken, EPA, at [daken.abigail@epa.gov](mailto:daken.abigail@epa.gov) and 202-343-9375 or Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at [sarah.medepalli@icfi.com](mailto:sarah.medepalli@icfi.com) and 202-677-5201.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,



Abigail Daken, Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR for HVAC