

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

September 30, 2016

Dear Connected Thermostat Provider or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the attached Draft 2 Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Method to Demonstrate Connected Thermostat Field Savings. This savings method supports EPA efforts to establish a specification for ENERGY STAR Connected Thermostats. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on this method to EPA no later than **October 26, 2016**.

The Draft 2 savings method was developed taking into account comments on the Draft 1 savings method and on subsequent conversations with a wide variety of stakeholders. There are two key sections added to the Draft 2 Method:

- **Defined method for selection of a random sample of thermostats.** EPA has proposed a specific method to select a sample of thermostats from among the installations of a particular product. Provision of a specific procedure, and associated data retention requirements, will aid the ability of third party auditors to ensure the sampling is in fact done honestly and competently. EPA is not proposing any auditing process at the moment, but is committed to making a thorough audit possible. Several utility stakeholders have indicated that auditability is important to their adoption of the metric and of the specification. Thus, auditability supports broader adoption of the specification. In addition, it is in line with EPA's commitment to credible savings for ENERGY STAR products.
- **Description of the algorithms used to determine the metric score, and their implementation in software.** An appendix has been added to the method to clearly explain the calculation of the metric in the ENERGY STAR CT Field Savings Software. At the moment, the appendix contains a reference to a discussion document, released on September 15, 2016, which explains all three methods currently used by the software. Once a single method is chosen and other details are decided for the v1.0 software release, the appropriate material will be incorporated into this appendix.

The method to demonstrate field savings references the ENERGY STAR CT Field Savings Software, which EPA continues to refine with invaluable input from CT stakeholders. The software calculates a percent run time reduction metric for product savings based on aggregated analysis of CT customer data. A current data call is collecting CT savings data using the latest, beta release software. Once complete, the data will enable a v1.x software release, as well as inform proposed minimum % savings levels, to be included in the forthcoming Draft 3 ENERGY STAR CT specification. EPA expects to release the v1.0 ENERGY STAR CT Field Savings Software in concert with the final Method to Demonstrate Connected Thermostat Field Savings.

### **Comment Submittal**

EPA thanks stakeholders for their feedback on Draft 1 of the Method, and for their continued participation in the metric development process. The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, industry, and other interested parties has been invaluable as we develop a specification that is meaningful in the marketplace and contributes to reductions of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Stakeholders are strongly encouraged to review and provide input on the attached Draft 2 Savings Method and send written comments to [ConnectedThermostats@energystar.gov](mailto:ConnectedThermostats@energystar.gov) by **October 26, 2016**. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Connected Thermostat development web site unless the submitter requests confidentiality.

### **Stakeholder Webinar**

EPA will host a stakeholder webinar to discuss the Draft 2 Version 1.0 Method to Demonstrate Connected Thermostat Field Savings on Thursday, October 10, 2015 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Eastern time. Please [register here](#) if you are interested in attending.

Thank you for taking the time to review the Method to Demonstrate Connected Thermostat Field Savings. If you have any questions regarding the proposal or other aspects of the specification development, please feel free to contact me at [daken.abigail@epa.gov](mailto:daken.abigail@epa.gov) and 202-343-9375, or Doug Frazee, ICF International, at [dfrazee@icfi.com](mailto:dfrazee@icfi.com) and 443-333-9267.

Sincerely,

Abigail Daken, Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR for HVAC