



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

December 19, 2016

Dear ENERGY STAR® Connected Thermostat Stakeholder 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 1.0 Method to Demonstrate CT Filed Savings (CT Savings Method) has been finalized. Version 1.1 of the CT Field Savings Analysis Software is under development and will be released soon. This version will include bug fixes and several minor changes to the v1.0 software that are necessary for product qualification purposes. EPA deeply appreciates the time and effort of our stakeholders, without which this would have been impossible.

The CT Savings Method is the first of its kind, using analysis and aggregation of data from a large number of installations in the field to verify savings from a product that includes both a service and hardware. Using field data allows EPA to recognize products that deliver on the promise of energy savings.

No substantive changes have been made in this Final CT Savings Method. EPA received one stakeholder comment on the Final Draft proposal, supporting the method in general and reiterating two areas of improvement. First, the stakeholder recommends that in addition to requiring 250 installations in each climate zone for providers that have at least that many, EPA impose an absolute minimum number of installations even for new entrants into the field that may not have many installations. EPA continues to have confidence that using the lower 95% confidence bound of mean savings and the 20th percentile of savings assures that only products with sufficient savings will be certified. The stakeholder also recommends creating stronger incentives for data completeness. EPA will consider this idea for future versions of the CT Savings Method.

In fact, there are a number of topics that EPA and our stakeholders have identified as potential extensions and improvements in subsequent versions of the Method and the analysis software. They include (but are not limited to):

- Assessing savings for controls matched with multistage or variable capacity heating and cooling equipment.
- Using a regional comfort temperature baseline, so that metric scores reflect a wider variety of savings strategies and are more closely tied to real world savings.
- Weather normalization.
- Further refinement of how to handle incomplete data.
- Processing data uploaded to a secure server using the EPA software, as a method to increase assurance in the validity of results.

EPA anticipates beginning this work early in 2017, acknowledging that a number of these activities will be lengthy. All stakeholders are invited to participate in this ongoing work and EPA

will communicate next steps through the stakeholder distribution list. Meaningful changes to the program will be integrated through a future specification revision.

On behalf of EPA, I appreciate your participation in the development of this method and I look forward to working with each of you in the future to use and improve it. Please direct any specific questions to myself, daken.abigail@epa.gov or 202-343-9375 or to Doug Frazee at ICF International, douglas.frazee@icfi.com or 443-333-9267.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

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

Abigail Daken, EPA Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for HVAC