



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

November 1, 2021

Dear ENERGY STAR® Central AC/Heat Pump Partner or Other Interested Party:

With this letter, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing amendments to the recently completed Version 6.0 ENERGY STAR CAC/HP [specification](#). These amendments will be reflected in a [Version 6.1](#), which will be effective upon completion. Products certified to Version 6.0 will not be affected.

Since finalizing the Version 6.0 revisions in March, EPA received substantial additional feedback that altered our understanding of the current market and the extent to which the Version 6.0 requirements reflect the performance of an adequate selection of ASHP models in the market. In particular, that in several cases we had chosen capabilities less widespread in the market than we had intended. In addition, we learned that some of the criteria for cold climates prevented less expensive units that have performed well and meet specific needs from being recognized with the cold climate designation. The proposed amendment includes the following changes:

- Lower EER requirements for multi-capacity air conditioners and heat pumps, which provide additional comfort and efficiency through other means, such as higher SEER and HSPF values, and meeting the V6.1 installation criteria.
- For Cold Climate Heat Pumps, removed EER requirements and reduced HSPF requirements for ducted heat pumps.
- Clarified several installation criteria and allowed systems to get credit for a test mode in addition to measurement of specific quantities as installed.

More details on each of these changes are available in the specification. EPA welcomes conversation with stakeholders about this proposal. In addition, we encourage written stakeholder input on the proposed Version 6.1 ENERGY STAR CAC/HP Product Specification. Please submit any comments to cac-ashp@energystar.gov by November 23, 2021.

All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development [website](#) unless the submitter requests otherwise.

Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken at EPA, Daken.Abigail@epa.gov, or 202-343-9375 and Cody Niblett, Cody.Niblett@icf.com or (202) 862-1245. Please direct test procedure questions to Catherine Rivest at DOE, Catherine.Rivest@ee.doe.gov or (202) 586-7335.

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
EPA Manager, ENERGY STAR HVAC Program