June 2, 2021

Dear ENERGY STAR® Pool Pumps Partner or Other Interested Party:

With this letter, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is finalizing an amendment to the ENERGY STAR Pool Pumps specification and releasing minor updates to the ENERGY STAR Pool Pumps Test Method to Validate Demand Response. With this Version 3.1 amendment, EPA is making modest updates to the optional connected criteria in alignment with other ENERGY STAR connected criteria for large load products. These updates will ensure that pool pumps respond uniformly to demand response requests from utilities. Updates to the Test Method to Validate Demand Response were made to align with terminology changes in the specification; no substantive changes have been made. The Version 3 specification, as amended, takes effect on July 19, 2021 and remains available for early certification. Pool pumps that already certified early to Version 3.0 will not be affected by this change.

Feedback on the Draft Version 3.1 Specification

EPA received comments on a few topics in response to the draft amendment. These comments are summarized in the enclosed comment response document, along with the Agency’s responses. EPA made a modest update in response to comments regarding installations where the user experience might be adversely impacted by participation in certain demand response events. EPA has added a requirement that connected pool pumps provide functionality that will automatically override demand response events under conditions where participation would significantly impact essential pool functions. EPA also amended the definition of a “loss of connectivity” event as the previous definition was not applicable to pool pumps with an OpenADR 2.0b implementation. The change to the specification language will allow for products with either protocol to meet the requirements for loss of connectivity.

Please direct any questions specific to the connected criteria to Abigail Daken at EPA, Daken.Abigail@epa.gov, or 202-343-9375, Abhishek Jathar at ICF, Abhishek.Jathar@icf.com or 202-862-1203 and Theo Keeley-LeClaire at ICF, Theo.Keeley-LeClaire@icf.com or 571-373-5471. General questions regarding the Pool Pumps specification may be directed to poolpumps@energystar.gov or to James Kwon at EPA, Kwon.James@epa.gov or 202-564-8538, as well as the ICF contacts listed above. Please direct demand response test procedure questions to Jeremy Dommu, U.S. Department of Energy, Jeremy.Dommu@ee.doe.gov or 202-586-9870.

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

Sincerely,
Abigail Daken  
EPA Product Manager, ENERGY STAR for HVAC and Connected

Enclosures:  
ENERGY STAR Version 3.1 Pool Pumps Final Specification  
ENERGY STAR Pool Pumps Test Method to Validate Demand Response (Rev. May-2021)  
ENERGY STAR Version 3.1 Pool Pumps Draft Specification Comment Response Document

For more information, visit: www.energystar.gov

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