

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

October 20, 2022

Dear ENERGY STAR® Residential Window, Door, and Skylight Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the Final ENERGY STAR Version 7.0 Residential Window, Door, and Skylight specification. EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who have invested time and resources to contribute feedback that has informed this specification revision process. The effective date for this ENERGY STAR Residential Window, Door, and Skylight specification will be **October 23, 2023**.

The ENERGY STAR Version 7.0 specification provides a significant jump in efficiency and savings and will recognize a good selection of types and styles of products offered by a variety of manufacturers at a range of price points. If all residential windows and doors sold in the United States were certified to ENERGY STAR Version 7.0, the energy cost savings would grow to more than \$156 billion each year and more than 53 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions would be avoided annually.

Since initiating the ENERGY STAR Version 7.0 Residential Window, Door, and Skylight specification revision process, EPA has released three drafts and held numerous webinars and meetings to collect feedback from stakeholders. EPA also collaborated with the Department of Energy (DOE) and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) during the modelling and analysis phase of the effort. EPA received comments from over 60 stakeholders throughout this process, including manufacturers, trade associations, utilities, and energy efficiency organizations. All comments, drafts, and supporting materials are available on the [ENERGY STAR Residential Windows, Doors, and Skylights Partner webpage](#).

EPA received several stakeholder comments on the Final Draft which EPA had previously considered and replied to in full. EPA received a few additional comments that did not result in a change to the final criteria but are touched on below. One comment, however, did result in a change. Numerous stakeholders shared a common concern regarding the availability of efficient > ½-Lite doors. EPA reevaluated its data and confirmed low availability for this subcategory of doors. As such, **EPA made a very modest adjustment to the North/North-Central zone U-factor requirement for > ½-Lite doors moving it from  $\leq 0.25$  to  $\leq 0.26$** . This change will allow a greater selection of > ½-Lite doors to qualify.

EPA received comments from several stakeholders suggesting that the window criteria for the North-Central zone be made less restrictive by raising the U-factor from  $\leq 0.25$  to  $\leq 0.26$ . EPA considered this request but decided not to proceed as EPA's analysis showed that a good selection of window products is currently available at the  $\leq 0.25$  level, the majority (over 60%) with dual glazing. Other stakeholders asked for a delayed effective date of January 1, 2024. Recognizing that leadership products already meet the Version 7.0 criteria and the scheduled effective date serves the intention of allowing partners to transition collateral material, EPA will maintain the October 23, 2023 effective date. Lastly, a few stakeholders raised a spacer modeling issue and requested an easing of the criteria. While the issue is unfortunate, several alternative approaches exist in the market that can be used to achieve equivalent or better performance. Therefore, no adjustment is warranted.

## Summary of Key Criteria Changes:

- **Doors:** EPA moves the criteria for Northern and North-Central > ½-Lite doors from a U-factor of  $\leq 0.25$  to  $\leq 0.26$ .

Energy Efficiency Requirements for Doors		
Glazing Level	U-Factor <sup>1</sup>	SHGC <sup>2</sup>
Opaque	$\leq 0.17$	No Rating
$\leq \frac{1}{2}$ -Lite	$\leq 0.23$	$\leq 0.23$
> $\frac{1}{2}$ -Lite	$\leq 0.26$	Northern and North-Central $\leq 0.40$
	$\leq 0.28$	South-Central and Southern $\leq 0.23$

<sup>1</sup> Btu/h ft<sup>2</sup>·°F

<sup>2</sup> Solar Heat Gain Coefficient

Further, EPA will launch collection and analysis of windows, doors, and skylight shipment data in the coming year. Two trade associations, (FGIA and WDMA), expressed interest in supporting the program as unit shipment data aggregators. EPA will outline how the program will proceed with collecting unit shipment data in a subsequent mailing.

## Timeline and Next Steps:

EPA shares partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification to the next so that consumers can expect ENERGY STAR labeled products to fully meet the latest requirements upon their effective date. Considering this, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 7.0 requirements.
- On April 23, 2023, CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to Version 6.0. Note, however, that existing certifications will remain valid for purposes of ENERGY STAR certification until October 23, 2023.
- Any residential windows, doors, or skylights manufactured as of October 23, 2023, must meet Version 7.0 requirements to be ENERGY STAR certified and bear the ENERGY STAR label.

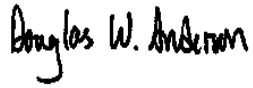
ENERGY STAR partnership as a manufacturer is limited to organizations that own and/or license a brand name under which they sell eligible products in the United States. Partnership is not available to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that do not sell directly to consumers or end users. OEMs may certify products on behalf of the ENERGY STAR brand owners/licensees; however, the brand owner must be the ENERGY STAR partner associated directly with the certified product models because only partners are authorized to use the ENERGY STAR certification mark.

Partners should be aware that the Version 7.0 criteria revision will require that all partners update their product labels with a new map since the climate zones have changed. EPA has also updated the label layout, provided a bilingual Spanish-English label option, and updated the spine labels. EPA will provide all the refreshed labels and an updated label guidance document in the next few months in the window, door, or skylight ENERGY STAR partner MESA accounts. EPA will provide a mailing to all partners announcing the release.

EPA sincerely thanks stakeholders who provided feedback during the specification revision process and looks forward to working with you as you certify and market your ENERGY STAR certified residential windows, doors, and skylights. If you have any questions or concerns about the specification or partnership process, please contact [windows@energystar.gov](mailto:windows@energystar.gov), or myself at [anderson.doug@epa.gov](mailto:anderson.doug@epa.gov).

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

Sincerely,



Douglas W. Anderson  
Product Manager for Windows, Doors, and Skylights  
ENERGY STAR Labeled Products

**Enclosures:**

**ENERGY STAR Version 7.0 Residential Windows, Doors, and Skylights Final Specification**

[https://energystar.gov/sites/default/files/asset/document/ES\\_Residential\\_WDS\\_V7\\_Final%20Specification%202022.pdf](https://energystar.gov/sites/default/files/asset/document/ES_Residential_WDS_V7_Final%20Specification%202022.pdf)

**ENERGY STAR Version 7.0 Residential Windows, Doors, and Skylights Data Package**

<https://energystar.gov/sites/default/files/asset/document/ENERGY%20STAR%20Version%207.0%20Residential%20Windows%20Doors%20and%20Skylights%20Data%20Package.xlsx>

**Links:**

**Residential Windows, Doors, and Skylights Version 7.0 Specification Development Page**

[https://energystar.gov/products/energy\\_star\\_residential\\_windows\\_doors\\_and\\_skylights\\_version\\_7\\_0](https://energystar.gov/products/energy_star_residential_windows_doors_and_skylights_version_7_0)