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



OFFICE OF AIR AND
RADIATION

April 28, 2020

Dear ENERGY STAR® Certification Bodies (CBs) and Accreditation Bodies (ABs),

Due to current social distancing guidelines, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received questions about performing certain activities remotely. The purpose of this communication is to clarify EPA's position on remote assessments of certification organizations and testing facilities, and remote witnessing of initial certification tests for ENERGY STAR products.

Accreditation Body (AB) assessments of certification organizations and testing facilities to standards such as IEC/ISO 17065 and 17025 may be performed remotely per the direction of the AB. It is EPA's understanding that ABs already perform remote assessments as needed, and are currently delaying assessments if an on-site visit is required. If you have any questions or concerns about your accreditation status, please contact your AB.

To increase flexibility for Certification Bodies (CBs) with witnessed manufacturer test laboratory (WTML) programs, EPA is allowing CBs to conduct oversight of these laboratories through remote witnessed testing on an interim basis. CBs performing or considering performing remote witnessed tests must continue to meet [Appendix A requirements](#) and submit the following information to certification@energystar.gov:

- 1) Criteria for eligibility in the CB's remote WTML program
- 2) CB procedures for conducting witnessed testing

For more information regarding the ENERGY STAR certification process, please visit <https://www.energystar.gov/3rdpartycert>. You may contact certification@energystar.gov or [Brian Krausz \(Krausz.Brian@epa.gov\)](mailto:Brian.Krausz@epa.gov) with any questions.

Sincerely,

Brian Krausz
Certification Lead, ENERGY STAR® Labeling Branch

For more information, visit: www.energystar.gov

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