

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

April 16, 2014

Dear ENERGY STAR® CAC/ASHP Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Draft 1 Version 5.0 ENERGY STAR® Central Air Conditioner and Air-Source Heat Pump (CAC/ASHP) specification. EPA plans to hold a stakeholder meeting on May 5, 2014 to discuss the Draft 1 specification in greater detail. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on this Draft to EPA no later than May 16, 2014.

The new Federal regional minimum standards, effective January 1, 2015, in some cases meet or exceed the current ENERGY STAR CAC/ASHP levels, necessitating a revision to the ENERGY STAR criteria. To ensure that ENERGY STAR continues to distinguish the top performers in terms of energy efficiency, providing significant energy and cost savings to the consumer, EPA is revising the Version 4.1 CAC/ASHP specification. Specifically, Draft 1 Version 5.0 proposes the following changes and identifies other areas for further discussion:

Definitions: Definitions have been updated to be clearer and to align more fully with Federal regulations.

Regional Specification: EPA proposes to adopt a regional requirement for CAC split systems, such that the ENERGY STAR requirement can be set higher in the South where the potential for savings is greater. For the remaining product classes, ASHP split system and CAC/ASHP single package, EPA proposes to maintain national requirements. A regionally specific label will be developed for split system CAC models that qualify for ENERGY STAR only in the North.

Performance Criteria: EPA's data supports raising the ENERGY STAR levels for most of the CAC/ASHP products. For CAC split systems, regional criteria are proposed with an increase in SEER from 14.5 to 15.5 and EER from 12 to 13 in the South region, while retaining current ENERGY STAR levels in the North. For ASHP split systems, Draft 1 proposes increasing SEER from 14.5 to 15.5, EER from 12 to 12.5 and HSPF from 8.2 to 8.6. Finally, for CAC single package units, Draft 1 proposes increasing SEER from 14 to 15.5 and EER from 11 to 12.5 and for ASHP single package, SEER from 14 to 14.5, EER from 11 to 12 and HSPF from 8.0 to 8.3.

Labeling: For split systems, to address difficulties installers, consumers, and energy efficiency program sponsors encounter determining whether a particular combination of indoor and outdoor units is ENERGY STAR qualified, EPA is considering adding a requirement that manufacturers provide a document incorporating the ENERGY STAR

mark for each qualifying combination. The document, which could be provided in print or online for download, would include model numbers of the full system (i.e., both the outdoor and indoor model numbers for split systems), the system performance ratings (SEER, EER, and for heat pumps HSPF), system capacity (or capacities in the case of heat pumps), and the appropriate ENERGY STAR mark. Manufacturers may offer the document themselves, or through a designee such as a certification body.

Sampling Requirements: EPA has modified sampling requirements to be consistent with DOE requirements, as defined in 10 CFR Part 429, Subpart B § 429.16.

Test Method: The test method reference has been updated to directly refer to the federal test method for CAC/ASHP units, 10 CFR part 430 Subpart B, Appendix M.

Comment Submittal

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide written comments for EPA consideration to CAC-ASHP@energystar.gov by **May 16, 2014**. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development website unless the submitter requests otherwise.

Stakeholder Meeting

EPA plans to host a stakeholder webinar meeting on **May 5, 2014 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm ET** to discuss the Draft 1 document and address initial stakeholder comments and questions. Stakeholders interested in participating in this discussion should RSVP to CAC-ASHP@energystar.gov by **April 30, 2014**. Stakeholders are encouraged to inform EPA of any industry events that may conflict with this proposed date.

To track EPA's progress in developing the ENERGY STAR CAC/ASHP specification, visit the ENERGY STAR website at www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs (click on the Central Air Conditioner and Air-Source Heat Pump Version 5.0 link).

Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken, EPA, at daken.abigail@epa.gov or 202-343-9375 and Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at sarah.medepalli@icfi.com or 202-677-5201. For test procedure inquiries, please contact Lucas Adin (DOE) at (202) 287-1317 or lucas.adin@ee.doe.gov. Thank you for taking the time to review this Draft 1 document. I look forward to working with you over the next several months to develop the Version 5.0 ENERGY STAR CAC/ASHP specification.

Sincerely,



Abigail Daken, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for HVAC