



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

July 01, 2013

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

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) intends to revise the ENERGY STAR Version 4.1 Central Air Conditioner and Air-Source Heat Pump (CAC/ASHP) specification. As a first step, EPA is pleased to share with you a Version 5.0 framework document for review and comment. A stakeholder meeting is scheduled for **July 22, 2013** to discuss the framework document in greater detail and address any stakeholder questions about the revision process.

The ENERGY STAR Program helps consumers save money and reduce their environmental impact. The new federal regional minimum standards, effective January 1, 2015, are close to and in some cases equal to the current ENERGY STAR CAC/ASHP levels. Therefore, to ensure that ENERGY STAR continues to distinguish the top performers in terms of energy efficiency and provide significant energy and cost savings to the consumer, EPA plans to revise the Version 4.1 CAC/ASHP specification.

The Version 5.0 specification framework is intended to encourage stakeholder input on EPA's initial concepts for revision of the CAC/ASHP specification. As such, this document outlines EPA's perspective on potential opportunities for additional energy savings and questions for consideration. This preliminary content is intended to encourage creative and constructive feedback from stakeholders.

Topics addressed in the attached framework document include the potential for regional performance levels, the use of additional metrics, and possible new requirements supportive of quality installation and maintaining peak performance. The Department of Energy (DOE) and EPA do not anticipate substantive changes to the test method references, but do plan minor changes to better align ENERGY STAR requirements with DOE rating requirements.

Comment Submittal

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide written comments for EPA consideration to CAC-ASHP@energystar.gov by **August 02, 2013**. 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 **July 22, 2013 from 1 pm to 3 pm ET** to discuss the framework document and address initial stakeholder comments and questions. Stakeholders are encouraged to inform EPA of any industry events that may conflict with this proposed date. EPA will distribute further information about this meeting over the next few weeks.

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 framework 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Abigail Daken".

Abigail Daken, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for HVAC