



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

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

June 11, 2014

Dear ENERGY STAR® Ventilating Fan Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Draft 1 Version 4.0 ENERGY STAR® Ventilating Fan specification. EPA plans to hold a stakeholder meeting on July 10, 2014 to discuss the Draft 1 specification in greater detail. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on this Draft to EPA no later than July 17, 2014.

The ENERGY STAR program helps businesses and individuals save money and protect the climate through superior energy efficiency. Products that earn the ENERGY STAR are considered the top performers with regards to energy efficiency. EPA estimates that about half of active bath fan models in the HVI directory meet the current V3.2 requirements, which have not changed (except for lighting) since 2003. In addition, in 2012, the market penetration of ENERGY STAR certified ventilating fans was at 70%. Further, initial market research has confirmed the availability of a broad range of higher efficiency products, which offer significant energy savings over standard efficiency products with reasonable payback for consumers. To ensure that ENERGY STAR continues to serve as a market differentiator, providing significant energy and cost savings to the consumer, EPA is revising the Version 3.2 ENERGY STAR Ventilating Fans specification.

The Draft 1 Version 4.0 specification includes the following key changes:

- **Airflow bins:** For bathroom fans, EPA proposes to adjust the product size classifications to more closely align with current market offerings. Specifically, the existing bins of 10 to 89 CFM and 90 to 500 CFM have been replaced by bins for 50 to 89 CFM, 90 to 200 CFM and 201 to 500 CFM. For range hoods, EPA has slightly raised the maximum airflow limit of 500 CFM to 600 CFM, and clarified that the limit applies to the maximum speed of the fan. In addition, EPA proposes a new limit of 200 CFM or less for the working speed of range hoods.
- **Efficacy:** For bathroom fans, EPA proposes raising the efficacy levels for the following product airflow categories: 50 to 89 CFM, to 2.8 CFM/W; 90 to 200 CFM, to 3.5 CFM/W; and 201 to 500 CFM, to 4.0 CFM/W. For inline fans, EPA proposes to raise the efficacy level from 2.8 to 3.8 CFM/W. These changes reflect the availability of high efficiency products within these categories. EPA does not propose any changes to the range hood efficacy requirements because there are limited product offerings meeting the current level, and discussions with stakeholders confirm that market penetration is low for range hoods.
- **Installed Fan Performance:** For bathroom fans, EPA proposes setting the minimum rated airflow at 0.25 in. w.g. static pressure to 70% of tested airflow delivered at 0.1 in.

w.g. static pressure, for all fans. For fans up to 89 CFM, this is an increase; EPA expects that most fans that meet the proposed efficacy requirements will meet this installed fan performance requirement as well.

- **Lighting:** EPA proposes to add an option to ship ventilating fans with bulbs that meet the ENERGY STAR Version 1.0 Lamps (Light Bulbs) specification, instead of testing the ventilating fan to the Luminaires specification. This offers manufacturers more flexibility.

### **Submitting Comments**

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide written comments for EPA consideration to [ventilatingfans@energystar.gov](mailto:ventilatingfans@energystar.gov) by **July 17, 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 **July 10, 2014 from 1 to 3 pm EDT** to discuss the Draft 1 document and address initial stakeholder comments and questions. If you'd like to participate, [please register prior to the webinar here](#). 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 Ventilating Fan specification, visit the ENERGY STAR website at [www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs](http://www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs) (click on the Ventilating Fan Version 4.0 link).

Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken, EPA, at [daken.abigail@epa.gov](mailto:daken.abigail@epa.gov) or 202-343-9375 and Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at [sarah.medepalli@icfi.com](mailto:sarah.medepalli@icfi.com) or 202-677-5201. 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 4.0 ENERGY STAR Ventilating Fan specification.

Sincerely,



Abigail Daken, Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR for HVAC