



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

October 11, 2012

Dear ENERGY STAR® Water Heater Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am pleased to inform you that the ENERGY STAR Version 2.0 Residential Water Heater specification has been finalized. Your valuable feedback throughout the development process has been integral to the development of the Final specification. This letter lays out the Agency's final decisions regarding these new requirements and outlines the schedule for qualifying products using these new requirements.

The new Version 2.0 specification will take effect on July 1, 2013. With it, EPA offers consumers a greater ability to compare products on a more even playing field by including a broader range of residential products in a more technology neutral specification. If all water heaters sold in the United States met these new ENERGY STAR requirements, the savings in energy costs would grow to more than \$14 billion each year and 195 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from more than 17 million vehicles.

EPA received broad stakeholder support of the Draft Final Version 2.0 specification. A comment response matrix is attached, addressing the limited questions EPA received. In addition, a few minor edits have been incorporated into the final specification document as a result of stakeholder feedback, for instance correcting "Basic Model Group" to "Basic Model" in several places.

The Final Version 2.0 Eligibility Criteria and existing Partner Commitments are attached for your reference. Previous draft proposals and stakeholder comments are available on the Product Development website at www.energystar.gov/revisedspecc (click on 'Residential Water Heaters').

Effective Date and Deployment Timeline

EPA shares its Partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification version to the next with the objective of meeting end user expectations that ENERGY STAR labeled products fully meet the latest requirements in effect upon their date of manufacture. With this in mind, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 2.0 requirements.
- From February 15, 2013, CBs will be asked to stop certifying new product submittals to the existing ENERGY STAR Version 1.1 specification requirements. Note, however, that existing certifications to Version 1.1 will remain valid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until June 30, 2013.
- As of July 1, 2013 any product manufactured and labeled as ENERGY STAR must meet Version 2.0 requirements. At this time, all certifications of products to the Version 1.1 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification and CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 2.0 to EPA.
- Currently certified products that will meet the new 2.0 specification will not need to be retested. CB's will update the certification to Version 2.0 by July 1, 2013.

Third-Party Certification

Manufacturers are reminded that as of January 1, 2011 all new products must be certified by an EPA-recognized CB before being labeled and marketed as ENERGY STAR. Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the Partner that the product is ENERGY STAR qualified and will submit qualified product data to EPA for listing on the ENERGYSTAR website. For more information on the Third-party Certification program please visit www.energystar.gov/3rdpartycert.

On behalf of EPA, I appreciate your participation in the development of this specification and I look forward to working with each of you as you qualify and promote your energy-efficient equipment. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or concerns at daken.abigail@epa.gov or (202) 343-9375. Please direct questions about the test methods for water heaters to Ashley Armstrong at DOE, at 202-586-6590 or Ashley.Armstrong@ee.doe.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Abigail Daken', written in black ink.

Abigail Daken, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR HVAC Program