Energy Star Luminaires Second Draft Comments

Following are my comments/concerns regarding the next version Energy Star qualification of lamps.

If fluorescent and solid state lighting is ever to gain favor with the general population in residential applications, industry's insistence on qualifying lamps with 4000K and 5000K color temperatures must stop. The average consumer does not understand the concept of color temperature, but they do value the Energy Star qualification. Employing an Energy Star qualified replacement lamp that is rated for either 4000K or 5000K will have an adverse reaction by the consumer and an in-kind revulsion to the program.

The consumer understands that they need to move to a more energy efficient option. They have learned of the value of seeking out an Energy Star label. They select one of these high CCT lamps and use them in the home. They are immediately dissatisfied and cannot understand why Energy Star says this “blue” lamp is acceptable. The credentials of Energy Star are shattered from that point forward in that consumer’s mind.

The argument FOR higher CCT lamps has always revolved around “choice” for the consumer. Why? The consumer cannot/does not have a choice of CCT with incandescent lamps. Why, when the industry is in such turmoil and the consumer is faced with this new trauma must choice be added to the list of decisions? The output can only be negative.

I urge you to eliminate these high CCT lamps from the list of eligible energy efficient lamps.

Please consider these comments when working to rectify the Energy Star for lamps program requirements.

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