December 20, 2010

Dear ENERGY STAR Lighting Partner, Stakeholder or Other Interested Party:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces the release of the Final Draft of the ENERGY STAR Luminaires V1.0 specification. In the interest of ensuring sufficient transition time, EPA has shifted the effective date to October 1, 2011. The Luminaires V1.0 specification will replace the Residential Light Fixtures (RLF, V4.3) and Solid State Lighting Luminaires (SSL, V1.2) specifications (the “existing specifications”).

On May 10, 2010, EPA released Draft 1 of the ENERGY STAR Luminaires V1.0 specification, intended to replace the existing specifications. On October 4, EPA released Draft 2. The Agency would like to thank partners and stakeholders for their thorough review of each draft, and the extensive comments received, which have been posted for your review on the Luminaires specification development web page, along with a document summarizing those comments.

Concurrent to these events, EPA has been engaged in the revision of ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for all product categories in preparation for third party certification requirements which take effect on January 1, 2011. Details of those changes, including Revised Partner Commitments for Residential Light Fixture and Solid State Lighting Luminaire manufacturers can be found at www.energystar.gov/testingandverification. Please note that beginning January 1, 2011, manufacturers seeking qualification of new product models must do so through an EPA-recognized certification body prior to using the ENERGY STAR mark.

The Final Draft distributed today reflects changes resulting from the Draft 2 comments, subsequent industry discussions, and the third party certification updates. Important modifications from Draft 2 to the Final Draft include:

- Accent lights and cove mount luminaires, formerly included only in the residential scope, have been added to the commercial scope of the specification with the same performance requirements.
- For solid state luminaires consuming 5 watts or less, the power factor performance requirement has been reduced to $\geq 0.5$. This change reflects what is both broadly accessible and cost effective.
- The modulation depth requirement detailed under Operating Frequency Requirements for solid state luminaires has been removed. EPA will continue to follow the work of various industry groups working to develop recommended practices to mitigate the potential for perceptible flicker and stroboscopic effects with this technology.
• Three specific exceptions to the Ballast/Driver Replaceability Requirements have been added for luminaire types for which it is impractical to enable a consumer to replace the ballast or driver due to the small form factor of the luminaire. Where partners elect to take these exceptions, extended warranty periods are proposed.
• Lighting Toxics Reduction Requirements have been further refined, with exemptions now detailed in the specification.
• All Supplemental Testing Guidance has been refined to make reference to testing models of subcomponents, and sample size language has been updated to reference the number of units of each model that shall be tested. The guidance also now indicates that luminaires shipped without lamps and capable of operating multiple wattage lamps shall be tested using the highest wattage lamp type detailed on the packaging.

EPA expects to distribute the finalized ENERGY STAR Luminaires V1.0 specification before the end of January, 2011. Stakeholders wishing to provide additional comments should submit comments to luminaires@energystar.gov by Friday, January 14, 2011. Please note that comments received will be posted to www.energystar.gov/luminaires unless marked “Do Not Post”.

With the final specification, EPA will share additional information related to its implementation.

Please note that luminaire models qualified prior to January 1 (or those submitted to EPA contractors prior to January 1 and subsequently qualified) will remain qualified until October 1, after which to remain on the ENERGY STAR qualifying product list they must be certified by an EPA-recognized certification body to meet the Luminaires V1.0 specification requirements.

Luminaire models qualified after January 1 (i.e. certified by an EPA-recognized certification body) using the existing specifications and also meeting the Luminaires v1.0 specification requirements will be automatically added to the Luminaires v1.0 qualifying product list on October 1.

All materials related to the Agency’s progress developing the Luminaires V1.0 specification will continue to be posted at the above link. Please feel free to contact me with questions, comments or concerns at (202) 343-9272 or baker.alex@epa.gov.

Happy holidays, and thank you for your support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

Alex Baker
Lighting Program Manager, ENERGY STAR
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency