

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

June 12, 2009

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Light Commercial HVAC Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Draft 2 Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Light Commercial HVAC specification. **Stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the Draft 2 document to EPA by July 3, 2009.**

This latest draft proposal reflects comments received on the previous Draft 1 document and EPA's analysis of the most recent Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) Directory of Certified Products. Provided below are the key elements of the Draft 2 Version 2.0 specification:

- The size range covered by the specification revision has been adjusted to align with EPACT 2005 and ASHRAE 90.1 Standard.
- AHRI Standard 1230, the test standard for variable refrigerant flow (VRF) multi-split systems, is near final. Once the standard is approved, EPA will conduct a review to determine whether it is appropriate to include VRF multi-split equipment in Version 2.0 of the light commercial HVAC specification.
- Tier 1 energy efficiency criteria for 3-phase, <65,000 Btu/h **single package** central air conditioner (CAC) and air-source heat pump (ASHP) equipment have been harmonized with current ENERGY STAR residential Tier 2 requirements for single-phase, **single package** CAC/ASHP equipment. EPA intends to establish Tier 2 requirements for this equipment category by January 2011, to be effective on January 1, 2012.
- Tiered requirements are proposed for 3-phase, <65,000 Btu/h **split system** equipment with the intention of harmonizing with ENERGY STAR residential Tier 2 requirements for single-phase, **split system** equipment by January 1, 2012.
- New Tier 1 energy efficiency requirements are proposed for CAC/ASHP equipment rated at 65,000 Btu/h and under 240,000 Btu/h with the same criteria for all heating section types of equipment (i.e. electric resistance and gas) for each size category. EPA will establish Tier 2 requirements by January 2011, to be effective on January 1, 2012.

Details regarding EPA's rationale for proposing these requirements are included in note boxes found throughout the document.

EPA's goal is to finalize the new specification no later than mid-August 2009 and retain the proposed Tier 1 specification effective date of January 1, 2010. EPA recognizes that this timeline does not provide the typical time period for manufacturers to transition product literature and other ENERGY STAR materials prior to the effective date. EPA believes that it is important that the timing of the new ENERGY STAR specification aligns with federal minimum standards going into effect on January 1, 2010 to ensure continued relevance in the marketplace. However, EPA is open to comment on this issue.

Energy Efficiency Criteria for Equipment $\geq 65,000$ Btu/h

Once IEER data becomes available in early 2010, EPA will review the AHRI Certified Directory to determine whether the ENERGY STAR performance levels for equipment rated at and above 65,000 Btu/h in the Version 2.0 specification appropriately capture the top performers in energy efficiency. EPA's goal is to finalize Tier 2 requirements by January 2011, to be effective January 1, 2012. Any revisions to the specification will be shared with industry stakeholders for review and comment.

Comment Submittal

Stakeholders are encouraged to review and provide written comments on the attached Draft 2 Version 2.0 specification to Christina Chang, ICF International, at cchang@icfi.com by **July 3, 2009**. All stakeholder comments on the Draft 2 document will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site unless otherwise requested.

To track EPA's progress in revising the ENERGY STAR specification for Light Commercial HVAC, visit the Product Development Web site at: www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment (click on "Revisions to Existing Specifications").

Thank you for taking the time to review this draft specification. Please contact me at (202) 343-9123 or Ryan.Steven@epa.gov with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,



Steve Ryan
ENERGY STAR Product Development