

Email received on June 21, 2010 from Tracy Adams.

Dear Energy Star,

I am a Product Manager at Blackstone International Ltd. (Blackstone) located in Baltimore, MD. One of our fastest growing product lines is Portable High Powered LED Desk Lamps. Blackstone is one of the first to register with High Powered LED Energy Star Rated Fixtures listed on the Energy Star website. Blackstone to date has 12 High Powered SSL Portable fixtures registered on the Energy Star website.

Blackstone currently markets a non-Energy Star rated lamp with the same style as one of the listed Energy Star models in Wal-Mart. Blackstone is scheduled to launch one of our Energy Star registered 5 Watt LED Adjustable Desk Lamp in all Costco Warehouse stores beginning of fall 2010. Blackstone continues to pursue marketing efforts to launch similar products in other large retailers. These retailers upon realizing the demand potential for these style portable task lights, are now becoming more aware of the exponential increase in technological advancements that are available to produce these High Powered SSL platforms required for Energy Star labeling at the same retail price points that Blackstone can offer.

With that said, Blackstone would like to comment on the First Draft of the ENERGY STAR Luminaries specification regarding the color range limit of 4100K. Blackstone would like to promote to Energy Star an increase the color range limit to include 5000K – 6500K Natural Daylight for non-directional lighting. It is our experience when working with retailers that they show a continued interest in marketing SSL fixtures that encompass a full spectrum to include the 5000K and up to 6500K Natural Daylight. Blackstone appreciates Energy Star's "technology neutral" approach as well as the "aesthetic" importance of marketing non-directional fixtures that appeal to a larger market which will ultimately decrease the already overwhelming energy consumption in which indoor lighting plays a part. We believe that while providing a neutral playing field for all manufacturers, the increase in the color range to include 5000K – 6500K will include a market segment that will ultimately increase the purchase of Energy Star rated products and decreased energy consumption in the long term. We further believe that while the importance of including the Energy Star approval labeling on products increases its brand awareness, the increase in customer awareness of "technology neutral" product choices will increase. Offering to customers the full range of 3000K to 4100K warm white light and 5000K to 6500K white light will give consumers a greater comparable when choosing to switch from inefficient indoor lighting to a full range of comparable Energy Star rated energy efficient non-directional indoor lighting.

With our experience in developing aesthetically pleasing portable indoor task fixtures, and increasing requests from our retailing partners for increased color ranges, we feel it is vitally important for the 4100K limit to be increased to include the 5000K – 6500K range.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in conjunction with Energy Star and the Department of Energy to develop the First Draft of the Energy Star Luminaries Specifications.

Please feel free to contact me regarding any questions or concerns.

From everyone here at Blackstone International Ltd., we thank you.

Tracy L. Adams
Product Manager
Blackstone International Ltd.