



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

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

December 20, 2013

Dear ENERGY STAR® Boiler 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 3.0 Boiler specification has been finalized. Your valuable feedback throughout the development process has been integral to the design of the final specification. This letter summarizes feedback on the Final Draft and outlines the transition process. The new Version 3.0 specification will take effect on October 1, 2014.

The Version 3.0 specification will distinguish highly efficient boilers that have the potential to save consumers hundreds of dollars a year. If all residential boilers sold in the United States met these requirements, energy cost savings would grow to more than \$275 million each year and 2.8 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from nearly 265,000 vehicles.

EPA received limited feedback on the Final Draft specification and made no changes. Some manufacturers reiterated that condensing boilers are expensive and may have shorter lifetimes compared to non-condensing boilers; other comments were in support of the requirements. After an exhaustive evaluation of manufacturers' claims, EPA continues to believe that condensing boilers can provide reasonable pay back to consumers. Given that condensing boilers are still a relatively new technology in the US market, contractor and consumer education are key to ensuring ENERGY STAR boilers achieve expected savings in the field and last for their full lifetimes, and EPA plans to support both. The Agency's new ENERGY STAR Verified HVAC Installation (ESVI) program will provide consumers with a path to ensure that an ENERGY STAR boiler is right for their situation, is installed to industry best practices and delivers promised savings. No other concerns were raised with the Final Draft specification.

A complete Boiler Program Requirements document, including the Final Version 3.0 Eligibility Criteria and existing Partner Commitments, is attached for your reference. Previous draft proposals, stakeholder comments and comment responses are available on the Product Development website at [www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs](http://www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs) (click on "Boilers").

**Transition Timeline and Next Steps:** 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 3.0 requirements.
- From May 15, 2014, CBs will be asked to stop certifying new product submittals to the existing ENERGY STAR Version 2.1 specification requirements. Note, however, that existing certifications to Version 2.1 will remain valid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until September 30, 2014.

- As of October 1, 2014 any product manufactured and labeled as ENERGY STAR must be certified to meet Version 3.0 requirements. At this time, CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 3.0 to EPA and only those products will appear on the qualified product list

Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the partner that the product is ENERGY STAR certified and will submit certified product data to EPA for listing on the ENERGY STAR website. For more information on the Third-Party Certification program please visit [www.energystar.gov/testingandverification](http://www.energystar.gov/testingandverification).

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 direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken at EPA, [daken.abigail@epa.gov](mailto:daken.abigail@epa.gov) and 202-343-9375 or Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at [sarah.medepalli@icfi.com](mailto:sarah.medepalli@icfi.com) and 202-677-5201. Please direct specific questions regarding test methods to Ashley Armstrong at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), [ashley.armstrong@ee.doe.gov](mailto:ashley.armstrong@ee.doe.gov) and 202-586-6590.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

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

Abigail Daken, Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR for HVAC