

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

November 2, 2012

Dear Pool Pump Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Draft 2 Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR Pool Pump specification and Final Draft Test Method (Rev. Nov-2012). Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on these documents no later than **December 3, 2012**.

In August 2012, EPA distributed the Draft 1 Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR Pool Pump specification and the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Draft 2 Test Method (Rev. Aug-2012) for stakeholder review and comment. A stakeholder webinar was held in September 2012 to discuss these documents in detail. EPA and DOE received several written comments on these documents and have been posted on the ENERGY STAR Pool Pump Specification Development webpage at [www.energystar.gov/newspecs](http://www.energystar.gov/newspecs).

**ENERGY STAR Stakeholder In-Person Meeting**

Stakeholders are invited to participate in an in-person stakeholder meeting in conjunction with the International Pool, Spa, and Patio show in New Orleans on **November 6, 2012 at 2PM Central Time in Rm 342 at the Morial Convention Center**. Both the Draft 2 specification and the Final Draft Test Method will be discussed. Please send your RSVP to [poolpumps@energystar.gov](mailto:poolpumps@energystar.gov).

**Key Elements of the Draft 2 Specification Proposal**

This second draft is informed by stakeholder comments in response to the previous Draft 1 document, a web meeting, as well as subsequent discussions with individual stakeholders. Questions and important discussion topics are highlighted in note boxes located throughout the draft specification. The Draft 2 specification includes the following key changes:

- **Definitions** –EPA expanded the definitions to include Pump Controls, Variable-flow Pumps, Most Efficient Speed, Normal Operating Point, Product Family definitions, and Representative Models. Modifications were made to the Standby Mode definition. Definitions are largely based on APSP-15, with modifications to provide further clarification, as needed.
- **Scope – Excluded Products:** EPA continues to exclude Residential Aboveground Pool Pumps, Residential Auxiliary Pool Pumps, Spa Pumps, Residential Inground Pool Pumps having a total horse power of  $\leq 0.5$  HP and  $> 4$  HP, Multi-speed Pumps with manual speed controls which are not ready for connection to external pump controls.

**Key Elements of the Final Draft Test Method**

The Final Draft Test Method (Rev. Nov-2012) incorporates stakeholder feedback on the Draft 2 Test Method and additional DOE analysis. Primary revisions include:

- **Input Voltage Requirements** – DOE updated the voltage requirements to provide the correct voltage and frequency combinations for the U.S. market. DOE also updated Table 1 to include voltage/frequency combinations for other markets.
- **Measurement Requirements** – DOE replaced the measurement requirements specified in Section 5.1 of the Draft 2 Test Method with a requirement to state that reported values shall be an average of measurements taken over the course of at least one minute at a rate greater than or equal to one per second.
- **Flow Rate Measurements** – DOE revised the flow rate measurements, so that, for each speed tested, flow rates are measured only where the Pump Performance Curve and each Pool Curve

(A, B, and C) intersect.

### **Connected Functionality**

EPA distributed the Pool Pumps Connected Functionality Discussion Document along with the Draft 1 specification and the Draft 2 Test Method. EPA is still very interested in highlighting products having connected functionality features on the ENERGY STAR Qualified Product List (QPL), but acknowledges the development of criteria related to connected functionality and any necessary test methods will take more time to be developed and does not want to further delay the Version 1.0 specification development effort. EPA intends to continue developing connected functionality criteria, independently of the specification development process, and plans to incorporate them into the specification and recognize products on the Qualified Product List, once they are finalized.

### **Consumer Education**

EPA is interested in providing consumers key information on best practices for maximizing performance and energy efficiency when operating the pump in the field. The intent is to make this information available on the ENERGY STAR website and through other marketing and educational materials branded with the ENERGY STAR mark.

EPA invites stakeholders to help identify the industry's best literature, standards, and educational guides to assist in this educational content development effort. Please submit ideas and content suggestions to [poolpumps@energystar.gov](mailto:poolpumps@energystar.gov).

### **Comment Submittal**

Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments to [poolpumps@energystar.gov](mailto:poolpumps@energystar.gov) no later than **December 3, 2012** on the Draft 2 specification and Final Draft Test Method. If no substantive comments are received from stakeholders, the test method will be finalized in the next publication cycle. All written comments received by EPA will be posted to the pool pumps specification development webpage unless the submitter requests otherwise.

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, DOE, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. Your input is very valuable during this specification development process.

Please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9046 and [kent.christopher@epa.gov](mailto:kent.christopher@epa.gov) or Erica Porras, ICF International, at (202) 862-2972 and [eporras@icfi.com](mailto:eporras@icfi.com) with any questions or comment on the Draft specification. For questions relating to the test method, please contact Bryan Berringer at (202) 586-0371 or [bryan.berringer@ee.doe.gov](mailto:bryan.berringer@ee.doe.gov)

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR. I look forward to working with you during the specification revision process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher Kent". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christopher Kent,  
Product Manager for ENERGY STAR Pool Pumps