



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

December 20, 2013

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Roof Products Stakeholder or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to provide you with the Final ENERGY STAR Version 3.0 Roof Products Specification and Test Method for Roof Products: Maintenance of Solar Reflectance (Rev. Dec-2013). EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who have invested time and effort contributing feedback to this specification revision process. An effective date of **July 1, 2017** is specified for Version 3.0 and the supporting ENERGY STAR Test Method.

This specification ensures that roofs are tested in the most representative manner and allows for fair comparison across many different technologies. Under the Version 3.0 specification, products will be tested in three climate zones and use the average across these zones, producing a more representative performance value that takes into account aged reflectance value variances.

EPA received a limited set of comments in response to the Final Draft specification. One commenter proposed inclusion of emissivity and a more stringent reflectivity requirement. While potentially valuable to the goal of saving energy, EPA needs to better understand the impacts of emissivity as well as an increase in the reflectivity requirement on building energy use in various climates before attempting to include it within this specification; both for minimum requirements and alternative approaches (i.e. SRI). EPA has addressed specific stakeholder comments in the Comment Response Summary posted on the ENERGY STAR website. All stakeholder comments, draft versions of the specification, and related materials are available on the ENERGY STAR website at www.energystar.gov/RevisedSpecs under the link for "Roofs."

Accelerated Aging Method:

EPA remains interested in an accelerated aging method and will continue to closely monitor efforts by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in pursuing its Advanced Surfaces (Accelerated Aging) Project. EPA encourages partners to stay engaged in this process and provide feedback on this alternative test that could help to address the length of time required for qualification. Once EPA has reviewed and is satisfied with the integrity of the test method, EPA will adopt this method as an accepted alternative to the proposed weathering farm test procedure. This alternative could potentially be available before the effective date of Version 3.0. Regardless of the availability of an alternative test, EPA will also continue to accept products tested in accordance with the climate zone weathering requirement detailed in the Version 3.0 specification.

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.

- Beginning **January 1, 2017**, CBs will be asked to stop certifying new product submittals to existing ENERGY STAR Version 2.3 specification requirements. Note, however, that existing certifications to Version 2.2 and 2.3 will remain valid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until July 1, 2017.
- As of **July 1, 2017**, any product manufactured and labeled as ENERGY STAR must meet the Version 3.0 requirements. At this time, all certifications of products to the Version 2.3 specification will be invalid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification and CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 3.0 to EPA.

Third-party Certification

As a reminder, all products must be third-party certified to remain ENERGY STAR qualified. Products currently on the qualified product list that have not been third-party certified will need to be retested to remain qualified. However, products that have been weathered in three weathering farm locations in accordance with the requirements of Version 3.0, but not third-party certified, may be able to remain qualified by having the original testing data submitted to and approved by an EPA-recognized CB. Manufacturers are encouraged to speak with their CBs in early 2014 to identify any additional product weathering farm and testing requirements necessary to remain certified as of July 1, 2017.

EPA thanks stakeholders who provided feedback during the specification revision process and looks forward to working with you as you certify and market your roof products. Please direct any specific questions to Steve Ryan, EPA, at Ryan.Steven@epa.gov and (202) 343-9123 or Michael Holzheimer, ICF International, at Michael.Holzheimer@icfi.com and (202) 862-1584.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,



Steve Ryan
ENERGY STAR Roof Products Program Manager