



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

June 1, 2011

Dear ENERGY STAR® Room Air Cleaners Stakeholder or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is making a minor revision to the ENERGY STAR® Version 1.1 Room Air Cleaners specification, allowing the option for multiple samples to be tested because of inherent uncertainty in the referenced test method.

Currently the ENERGY STAR Room Air Cleaners specification requires that performance, specified in terms of Clear Air Delivery Rate (CADR) be demonstrated based on a single sample test with the results being equal to or better than the ENERGY STAR requirement. Given that the CADR test relies on particle counting, it involves substantial statistical uncertainty which is not dependent on sensor design. EPA's concern is that this requirement may encourage manufacturers to rate their units more conservatively, which in turn could result in consumers purchasing larger size units than required for their space and consuming more energy than needed.

To address this, EPA is adding the option of testing multiple samples of the same unit for qualification and basing their ratings on the results of the mean of the test samples. Models tested for qualification using a multi-sample approach would also be tested with multiple samples for purposes of verification through certification bodies. EPA believes, in this instance, that the multiple sample approach will allow for more accurate performance ratings.

If you have comments or concerns about this change, please submit them to RoomAirCleaners@energystar.gov by **June 17, 2011**. EPA intends to finalize and post the revised, Version 1.2 Room Air Cleaners specification by June 30, 2011. Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken at EPA, daken.abigail@epa.gov or 202-343-9375 or Sarah Medepalli at ICF International, smedepalli@icfi.com or 202-862-1268.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

Abigail Daken
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ENERGY STAR HVAC Program