

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

May 3, 2010

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Partner or Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Draft Conditions and Criteria for Recognition of Accreditation Bodies (AB) for ENERGY STAR Laboratory Accreditation (“Draft AB Requirements”). EPA is developing enhanced testing and verification requirements to strengthen the ENERGY STAR program and will be requiring accreditation bodies to adhere to specific requirements to accredit labs for testing under the ENERGY STAR program. Also attached is EPA’s planned timeline for developing the enhanced testing and verification requirements.

On March 26, 2010, EPA hosted a conference call with stakeholders to describe the enhanced testing and verification requirements. Subsequently, EPA received input from stakeholders through a series of conference calls, and through written comments. This feedback was used to inform the development of the Draft AB Requirements.

Important elements include:

1. General requirements: A recognized AB must be a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA), meet the requirements of ISO 17011, and comply with the specific conditions of the ENERGY STAR Laboratory Accreditation Requirements (forthcoming document).
2. Reporting to EPA: The AB must provide EPA with electronic accreditation information, inform EPA of any changes that affect its ability to assess laboratories, and participate in meetings with EPA as necessary.
3. Conducting laboratory assessments: The AB must assess laboratory operations for compliance with ENERGY STAR Laboratory Accreditation Requirements and publish an up-to-date list identifying all accredited laboratories on its website.

As indicated in the attached timeline, these Draft AB Requirements are part of a broader set of requirements that will also include ENERGY STAR Laboratory Accreditation Requirements (both general and product-specific) and Certification and Verification Program Requirements.

Please submit your feedback on these Draft AB Requirements to ENERGYSTARVerificationProgram@energystar.gov by May 14, 2010, noting, “Draft AB

Requirements,” in the subject line of your email. EPA plans to publish all stakeholder comments on its Web site, as well as a key issue and response document.

To track EPA’s progress in developing enhanced testing and verification requirements, visit the ENERGY STAR website at www.energystar.gov/testingandverification.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Vokes", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathleen Vokes
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ENERGY STAR