



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 30, 2003

Dear ENERGY STAR Partner:

The U.S. Department of Energy is pleased to enclose the ENERGY STAR[®] Partner Resource CD for the Windows, Doors, and Skylights Program. The CD contains a host of tools for implementing the new Four-Zone qualification criteria including: graphics for product labels and promotional maps, guidance on use of the new label and promotional map and the ENERGY STAR identity in general, and tools to help determine the ENERGY STAR zones. This letter addresses the following issues:

- I. Default qualification for current products under new ENERGY STAR criteria;
- II. Logistics of the transition to the new qualification criteria;
- III. New labeling and promotional tools; and
- IV. Other current and pending implementation tools.

I. Default Qualification for Current Products Under New ENERGY STAR Criteria

Windows and Doors

The Department created default qualifications for fenestration products qualified under the previous criteria for the new criteria according to the following schedule:

Default Qualification Schedule for Windows and Doors

PREVIOUS THREE-ZONE QUALIFICATION			NEW FOUR-ZONE DEFAULT QUALIFICATION		
	<i>U-Factor</i>	<i>SHGC</i>		<i>U-Factor</i>	<i>SHGC</i>
Northern Only	≤ 0.35	any	Northern Only	≤ 0.35	any
Central Only	≤ 0.4	≤ 0.55	North/Central Only	≤ 0.4	≤ 0.55
Southern Only	≤ 0.75	≤ 0.4	NO DEFAULT QUALIFICATION (See below for instructions)	≤ 0.65	≤ 0.4
Northern and Central	≤ 0.35	≤ 0.55	Northern and North/Central	≤ 0.35	≤ 0.55
Central and Southern	≤ 0.4	≤ 0.4	North/Central, South/Central, and Southern	≤ 0.4	≤ 0.4
All Zones	≤ 0.35	≤ 0.4	All Zones	≤ 0.35	≤ 0.4

The equivalence of minimum U-factor and SHGC qualification requirements under the old and new criteria permit the assignment of a default qualification category to all previously qualified fenestration products, except for those previously qualified in only the Southern climate zone. Manufacturers of these products will be able to re-qualify

products meeting the more stringent U-factor (≤ 0.65) by sending ENERGY STAR a list of model names and corresponding NFRC CPD numbers via any of the following means:

ENERGY STAR
 C/O D&R International
 1300 Spring St., Suite 500
 Silver Spring, MD 20910
 ATTN: Windows, Doors and Skylights

Email: sbickel@drintl.com
Fax: (301) 588-0854

Skylights

Because the new skylight qualification criteria are based on ratings using the new NFRC 2001 simulation procedures that rate skylights at a 20° incline, a simple default qualification is not possible. The Department has decided to assign skylights a *temporary* default qualification according to the following schedule:

Temporary Default Qualification Schedule for Skylights

PREVIOUS THREE-ZONE QUALIFICATION			NEW FOUR-ZONE DEFAULT QUALIFICATION		
	<i>U-Factor</i>	<i>SHGC</i>		<i>U-Factor*</i>	<i>SHGC*</i>
Northern Only	≤ 0.45	any	Northern Only	≤ 0.6	any
Central (and Northern)	≤ 0.45	≤ 0.55	Northern Only	≤ 0.6	any
Southern Only	≤ 0.75	≤ 0.4	Southern Only	≤ 0.75	≤ 0.4
All Zones	≤ 0.45	≤ 0.4	All Zones	≤ 0.6	≤ 0.4
			There are no default qualifications for the North/Central and South/Central climate zones alone or in combination with other zones except for products qualified in all zones.		

*U-factor qualification criteria based on new NFRC 2001 simulation and certification procedures which rate the skylight at 20° incline.

This temporary default qualification is based on window performance simulations. These simulations indicate, under the new simulation procedures, results are higher than under the NFRC 1997 procedures by a factor of 1.25-1.30. For the temporary default qualification the Department is allowing all skylight manufacturers to convert the minimum performance U-factor rating under the old criteria by a factor of 1.3. Under this assumption all products previously rated at U-factor ≤ 0.45 will meet the minimum qualification requirements of all regions under the new ENERGY STAR qualification criteria.

This temporary default qualification shall be valid until May 1, 2004. Manufacturers will have until April 30, 2004 to supply ENERGY STAR the model names and corresponding NFRC CPD numbers for all products they wish to label as ENERGY STAR qualified. The Department does not anticipate that this will cause any significant additional burden on manufacturers given that NFRC is requiring all skylights to be recertified under their new procedures by April 1, 2004.

II. Logistics of the Transition to the New Qualification Criteria

The Department would like to offer clarification on managing the transition from the old to the new qualification criteria with regard to labeling of products and product literature.

Logistics for Labeled Products

1. Manufacturers of windows, doors and skylights may ship products qualified under the old qualification criteria until August 28, 2003.
2. Products qualified under the new qualification criteria may not be shipped until August 29, 2003.
3. Products qualified under the old qualification criteria may be present in the distribution path until November 30, 2003.
4. Beginning August 29, 2003, manufacturers may ship products qualified under the new qualification criteria labeled in accordance with the *Label and Promotional Map Use Guidelines* (See enclosed CD).
5. Beginning December 1, 2003, only products qualified under the new qualification criteria and labeled appropriately may be sold at any point in the distribution path.

Logistics for Promotional Materials

1. All product literature, advertising, and other informational and promotional material printed on or after August 29, 2003 must use the Four-Zone climate map and conform to the *Label and Promotional Map Use Guidelines*.
2. Literature that includes the old Three-Zone climate map may continue in the distribution path until November 30, 2003.
3. Beginning December 1, 2003, product literature must use the Four-Zone climate map and conform to the *Label and Promotional Map Use Guidelines*.

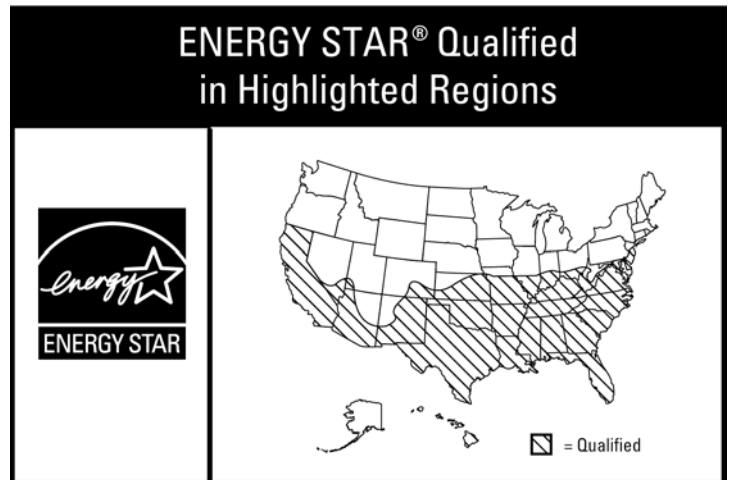
III. New Labeling and Promotional Tools

In order to foster greater ease of use and brand recognition for both end-users and partners, the ENERGY STAR for Windows, Doors, and Skylights program has developed new product label and promotional map templates, to accompany the new qualification criteria.

To assist partners in using these templates and correctly and consistently labeling qualified products the Department has developed *Label and Promotional Map Use Guidelines* (see enclosed CD). These guidelines specify size, color, content, and other usage features for the new official label and promotional map templates as well as for the development of customized labels or promotional maps.

The new label design (pictured in a patterned version, Fig. 1) uses the new ENERGY STAR Certification Mark in a larger and more visible format, a clear qualification statement in a large font above the map, and shows the entire region where the product is qualified highlighted in the same color, tone or pattern with no differentiation between climate zones. A principal goal of the new design is to allow end-users to quickly understand that a product is ENERGY STAR qualified and where, irrespective of their knowledge and comprehension of the underlying climate zone system. You will find templates of the label in four color, two color, grayscale, and patterns (for dot matrix printing) to allow partners a wide spectrum of design options.

Figure 1. New Label (L26)

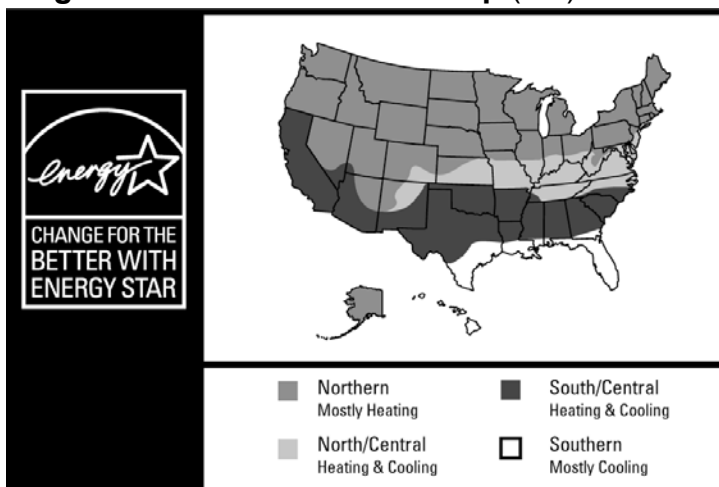


Partners should be aware that under the new qualification criteria for windows and doors there are only six distinct combinations of climate zone qualification:

- Northern Only
- North/Central Only
- Southern Only
- Northern and North/Central
- North/Central, South/Central, and Southern
- All Zones

Thus only six basic classes of label template have been generated for each of the various format and file type options.

Figure 2. New Promotional Map (M2)



The new promotional map (pictured in grayscale, Fig. 2) has a similar design to the label, but shows all climate zones distinctly and includes a legend that names and describes the zones.

Partners are encouraged, but not required to use the new label and map templates. Partners may develop custom approaches to labeling and use of the promotional map, provided they conform to the

requirements of the *Label and Promotional Map Use Guidelines* included on the enclosed CD. The graphic building blocks necessary for constructing custom labels are also provided on the enclosed CD and will ultimately be available via download from www.energstar.gov.

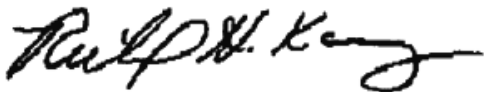
Joint USA-Canada ENERGY STAR Label

The US ENERGY STAR and Canadian ENERGY STAR programs are currently discussing development of a joint label that could be used by manufacturers to market the same product in both countries. Partners will be notified when a final decision is reached.

IV. Other Current and Pending Implementation Tools

The enclosed CD includes a *Climate Zone Look-Up for Major US Cities*, the first of two implementation tools the program is developing, to assist partners in determining which climate zone cities are located if they appear close to the border of two zones. The second tool will provide partners with climate zone assignments by county and city for states with more than one climate zone. Partners will be instructed on accessing this tool as soon as it is available.

Sincerely,



Richard H. Karney, P.E.
Manager, ENERGY STAR Program
U.S. Department of Energy

Attachment