I agree that cooling equipment match-ups should be verified, and there are many contractors in my area selling a certain SEER, but not delivering matched equipment. However, it has been my experience that Energy Star means very little to my customers. If you added the cost and hassle of third party verification, I believe Energy Star in the HVAC field would go away completely.

My suggestion is to spend some marketing dollars to educate the consumer, warning them that SEER ratings are only meaningful if installed correctly. If consumers demanded to see ARI specs on their match-up, it would keep a lot of contractors honest. Pulling the Energy Star label will not have any positive impact on high efficiency air conditioners sales.

Sincerely,
David M. Watkins
Watkins Mechanical, Inc.
Springboro, OH