



Setting Standards for Excellence

March 22, 2005

Dear NEMA/ALA Lamp & Ballast Matrix Participant:

Thank you for your participation in the NEMA/ALA Lamp & Ballast Matrix. Over the past two and a half years, the matrix has become a valuable resource for many ENERGY STAR Residential Light Fixture partners as a means to reduce the administrative burden and testing costs associated with the ENERGY STAR for Residential Light Fixtures program. To date, a few thousand ENERGY STAR qualified fixtures use lamps and ballasts that are listed on the NEMA/ALA Lamp & Ballast Matrix.

As you may be aware, on January 10, 2005, EPA released the Final ENERGY STAR Version 4.0 Residential Lighting Fixture Specification (aka Eligibility Criteria). The attached specification outlines the performance, testing, and labeling requirements that fixtures must meet in order to qualify for ENERGY STAR. EPA is requiring that existing fixture partners who wish to continue their partnership in ENERGY STAR for Residential Lighting Fixtures ensure that all qualifying products meet the requirements of the new Version 4.0 specification, effective October 1, 2005.

As you may imagine, fixture manufacturers that rely upon the matrix have begun to ask how they can most easily transition their products to meet the new specification. To assist in this effort and ensure that the matrix continues to be a valuable resource, NEMA has agreed to develop an outreach initiative to update the components that are currently listed on the matrix with the new performance characteristics that are required under version 4.0 of the specification.

To this end, please find attached a revised lamp and ballast matrix template. Please transfer your currently listed components and associated values to the applicable new template and then add new values where none currently exist. As a reminder, **EPA has reserved the right to request actual lab data for any required test at any time from any party.** Therefore, new values should only be added to the matrix if the values reported meet the performance characteristic requirements established in Table 1 and supporting test documentation exists that meets the documentation requirements established in Table 3 of the attached ENERGY STAR specification.

Please complete this review and return the revised matrix and a newly-signed agreement to NEMA by **April 25, 2005.** In early May, EPA will begin a similar outreach program to fixture manufacturers and will heavily promote those components that have been deemed to meet the applicable performance requirements, including those listed on the matrix. Therefore, it is in the best interest of participants to meet this deadline with as many components as possible to ensure that fixture manufacturers can continue to use your components and comfortably transition their products to the new Version 4.0 specification by October 1, 2005. Components that are updated after this time will still be added to the matrix on a rolling basis.

As a reminder, the only alternative to the matrix for manufacturers that wish to have their components deemed compliant is a platform letter of qualification from EPA. This process requires the completion of a Qualified Product Information form and the submittal of all required supplemental test documentation to EPA for review.

On behalf of NEMA, I appreciate your participation in this revision process and I look forward to working with each of you to ensure a smooth transition. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 703.841.3226 or kur_riesenberg@nema.org. Additional information is available on the official website at www.nema.org/lampballastmatrix/.

Respectfully,

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