



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

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

Climate Protection Partnership Division
U.S. EPA 6202J
Washington, DC 20460

September 13, 2007

Erick L Seelinger
Technical Program Developer
PNM Energy Efficiency Program

Dear Erick,

EPA understands that technical guidance has been requested regarding the modeling of evaporative coolers for the purpose of qualifying ENERGY STAR new homes in New Mexico. I am sending this letter to officially recognize that, for the purpose of qualifying ENERGY STAR new homes in New Mexico, evaporative coolers may be modeled with an equivalent SEER value of 22.

For this value to be used, the following stipulations apply to the evaporative cooling system:

- The system type must be 100% indirect; or direct/indirect; or a single-inlet direct with 12” width media and an Indirect Cooling Module (ICM)
- The system must be permanently installed (i.e., not a portable system)
- The electrical components must be UL recognized

In addition, to help ensure that homes do not experience excessive loads that may compromise comfort, all windows and skylights must meet the following performance requirements, as defined in the ENERGY STAR National Builder Option Package:

	Climate Zone		
	3	4	5
U-Value	≤ 0.40	≤ 0.40	≤ 0.40
SGHC	≤ 0.40	≤ 0.45	≤ 0.55

Up to 0.75% Window to Floor Area (WFA) may be used for decorative glass that does not meet ENERGY STAR requirements. For example, a home with total above-grade conditioned floor area of 2,000 sq. ft. may have up to 15 sq. ft. (0.75% of 2,000) of decorative glass.

We are look forward to increased penetration of energy efficient residential construction in the State of New Mexico and the environmental benefits that may accrue.

Sincerely,

Sam Rashkin
National Director, ENERGY STAR® for Homes