



## IFC/GEF Efficient Lighting Initiative Product Qualification Protocol

### Background

Developing countries often share common market barriers to the use of energy-efficient lighting. Barriers include inadequate information about the energy, economic and environmental benefits of efficient lighting, and a lack of credible sources of such information.

To address these barriers, ELI develops and promotes voluntary technical specifications that include rigorous technical and quality criteria. ELI has a labeling system that helps consumers identify energy efficient lighting products that meet the ELI specifications. ELI programs include marketing, educational, market building, and financing activities. Each participating country tailors its activities to meet the needs of the local market. These activities are supported by US\$15 million in Global Environment Facility funding, and by additional local and international funding. Lighting manufacturers whose products meet the ELI specifications are invited to launch product promotions and advertising campaigns in cooperation with ELI's local marketing programs.

Manufacturers interested in ELI should review the ELI voluntary technical specifications to determine whether or not their products could comply. They should then review the ELI qualification protocol for guidance on how their lighting products could receive the ELI label.

ELI promotes the following voluntary technical specifications for energy efficient lighting.

- Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)
- Indoor CFL Luminaires
- Outdoor Residential Luminaires
- Linear Fluorescent Systems
- Public Lighting
- Traffic Signals

ELI helps purchasers identify efficient, reliable products that perform according to manufacturer specifications. ELI offers public education and marketing campaigns to inform consumers in all seven ELI countries that the ELI logo means high quality and savings backed by credible performance data. Only lighting products that carry the ELI logo may participate in these campaigns and in the other market building and promotional activities that ELI conducts.

Interested manufacturers may qualify their lighting products to carry the ELI logo by showing that they comply with the ELI technical specifications. Compliance with the ELI specifications will be determined by review of product performance data submitted by accredited lighting laboratories.

## **Privileges of Qualified Product Status**

ELI funds, designs and executes a broad range of energy efficient lighting promotion activities in all seven ELI countries. These activities only promote lighting products that have been qualified as complying with the ELI technical specifications. Manufacturers that carry ELI-qualified products are eligible to:

1. Display the ELI logo on packaging for qualified products
2. Enter into agreements with ELI that may include:
  - Displaying the ELI logo in product marketing promotions
  - Participating in ELI-funded or organized efficient lighting promotion activities in ELI countries.
  - Participating in joint promotional activities between the manufacturer and ELI in ELI countries.
3. Have their qualified products included in ELI lists of high quality, energy efficient lighting products.

ELI qualification is awarded on a product-by-product (rather than manufacturer) basis and is valid for 24 months from the date awarded. At the end of 24 months, manufacturers may retest their products and resubmit product performance data to ELI to re-qualify their products.

## **The Product Qualification Process**

The ELI technical specifications are available at [www.efficientlighting.net](http://www.efficientlighting.net).

The performance of ELI-qualified lighting products must be measured from samples taken from normal production, (not based on limited production prototypes) using internationally accepted test procedures as specified. In addition, lamps and ballasts that are sold together, such as in unitary CFLs, must be tested together and not with reference lamps and ballasts. Testing must be performed by nationally accredited laboratories that adhere to laboratory standards set by ISO/IEC as described below. All ELI product qualification testing shall be performed at the submitting manufacturer's expense.

### ***Submission of Test Data***

Manufacturers shall provide ELI with complete test results for products submitted for qualification as indicated in the relevant ELI technical specification. These data shall be sent directly from the test laboratory to ELI at the addresses below in both electronic and print form. Test results must be provided in the standardized templates provided by on the ELI website. Test results must be accompanied by documentation showing current laboratory accreditation.

ELI will hold all ELI product qualification data received in the strictest confidence. However, aggregated lighting product performance data may be used to perform publicly available analyses of generic product type classes, stripped of information that might identify specific manufacturer's products. Product test data will be reviewed as received. ELI will respond to a request for product qualification within 15 business days of receiving a complete set of the required test results, unless otherwise indicated.

### ***Acceptable Lighting Product Testing Data***

ELI will accept lighting product performance data gathered using the test procedures in the ELI technical specifications and submitted in the ELI standardized templates. Test procedures indicated in ELI technical specifications must be performed in laboratories that conform to ISO/IEC Guide 25 or ISO/IEC 17025, as accredited by a recognized national or regional accreditation body. Accreditation bodies that have been recognized as requiring conformance with ISO/IEC Guide 25 or ISO/IEC 17025 include:

Member organizations of the European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA).

Members of the Asian-Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation that have signed a relevant multilateral mutual recognition agreement, including:

- National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA)
- Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS)  
Tel: 852 2829 4838, fax: 852 2824 1302, e-mail: [hkas@itc.gov.hk](mailto:hkas@itc.gov.hk), website: [www.info.gov.hk/itc/hkas](http://www.info.gov.hk/itc/hkas))
- International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ)
- Singapore Accreditation Council - Singapore Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (SAC-SINGLAS)
- Chinese National Accreditation Committee for Laboratories (CNAACL)  
Tel: 86 10 8425 7847, fax: 86 10 6422 9791, email: [cnacl@cnacl.gov.cn](mailto:cnacl@cnacl.gov.cn))
- American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
- National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP)

ELI may recognize additional accreditation bodies or specific laboratories upon request. ELI reserves the right to require documentation verifying laboratory compliance with ISO/IEC Guide 25 or ISO/IEC 17025. The provision of any such documentation required by ELI will be at laboratory or manufacturer expense. ELI does not provide funding to cover the costs of laboratory accreditation.

### **ELI Product Performance Verification**

ELI maintains a performance verification program that may subject any qualified product to verification performance testing at any time during ELI. Performance verification testing will be performed on random product samples purchased by ELI in the retail market and tested in laboratories chosen by ELI, at ELI's expense. Should verification testing results indicate that the product samples in the market do not comply with ELI technical specifications, the manufacturer may choose to remove the product in question from participation in ELI, or may request a second round of performance verification testing. This second round of testing shall be based on random product samples purchased by ELI in the retail market, and tested in a laboratory selected by ELI, at the manufacturer's expense. Should the second round of testing also show that the product in question does not meet ELI technical specifications, ELI may disqualify the product from the program.

### **Disqualification of Products**

Once a lighting product has been disqualified from ELI, that product may not be included in any new program activities in any ELI country until ELI has requalified it. A manufacturer may not ship disqualified products carrying the ELI logo after one week from the date of disqualification. Improper use of the ELI logo may result in additional products being disqualified and in the product in question becoming ineligible for review for readmission into ELI. Manufacturers that make unauthorized use of the ELI logo may also be subject to legal action.

Three months after the date of disqualification a manufacturer may apply to ELI for readmission of the product in question. Such applications must include a new round of testing performed in a laboratory selected by ELI, at the manufacturer's expense.

### **Directions for Sending Application Materials to ELI Contacts**

Applicants must submit applications plus all product performance data in electronic form to both ELI offices indicated below.

Additionally, applicants must ship their product samples plus a print copy of all application materials to the IIEC Regional Office in Bangkok.

Ms. Kathryn Conway  
Technical Consultant, Efficient Lighting Initiative  
P.O. Box 510  
Nassau, NY 12123-0510 USA  
email [eli@kateconway.cc](mailto:eli@kateconway.cc)

Mr. Sommai Phon-Amnuaisuk  
Senior Project Manager  
CERF/IIEC Asia Regional Office  
12th Floor, United Business Center II Bldg., (UBC II)  
Suite 1208, 591 Sukhumvit Rd. (Corner Soi 33)  
Wattana, Bangkok 10110  
Thailand  
Tel: +66 2 662-3460-5  
Fax: +66 2 261-8615  
email: [samnuaisuk@iiec.cerf.org](mailto:samnuaisuk@iiec.cerf.org)

### **Inquiries about Applications**

Questions about the status of applications should be directed to Mr. Phon-Amnuaisuk via e-mail. Questions about the specifications and technical requirements for testing should be directed to Ms. Conway via e-mail.