Effective immediately NYSERDA will be aligning all versions of the program’s ENERGY STAR lighting requirements with the US EPA Energy Star Multifamily High Rise Program. The NYSERDA Multifamily Performance Program (New Construction) requirements currently read:

“All hard-wired lighting fixtures installed within apartments shall meet or exceed ENERGY STAR specifications†. ENERGY STAR qualified screw-in lamps may be used in the following applications only: Closets, storage spaces, and other locations that are not within habitable living space. “

“All light fixtures in non-apartments spaces, including hallways, stairwells, lobbies, elevators and decorative fixtures, shall have combined lamp and ballast efficacies meeting or exceeding ENERGY STAR specifications†. Alternatively, T-5 or T-8 lamps with electronic ballasts or ENERGY STAR qualified screw-in lamps may be used.”

“All outdoor lighting fixtures shall have combined lamp and ballast efficacies meeting or exceeding ENERGY STAR specifications†.”

The US EPA Multifamily High Rise Program requires 80% of installed light fixtures in common areas, 80% of all installed light fixtures within apartments and 80% of all installed outdoor lighting fixtures to be ENERGY STAR certified or have ENERGY STAR certified lamps installed. Alternatively, 100% of the installed light fixtures in these spaces must have high-efficiency lamps installed, as defined in the US EPA ENERGY STAR Multifamily High Rise National Performance Path Prerequisites and the ENERGY STAR Multifamily High Rise National Prescriptive Path Requirements*, copied below.

“High Efficacy Lamps: Compact fluorescent lamps, T-8 or smaller diameter linear fluorescent lamps or lamps with a minimum efficacy of 60 lumens/W for lamps over 40W; 50 lumens/W for lamps over 15W to 40W; and 40 lumens/W for lamps 15W or less”
(*subject to change with the corresponding EPA documents.)

This method of compliance will now be allowed to satisfy the NYSERDA Multifamily Performance Program requirements quoted above. All other requirements related to lighting remain unchanged.