

## DOCKETED

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## **Update on Irrigation Controller Technology**

On behalf of the Irrigation Association, this is a brief update in addition to the comments collected in June 2017 in the Response to the Invitation to Participate. In regards to beta testing of the proposed ASABE X627 standard for weather-based irrigation controllers it is in process but not finalized as of this date. Hopefully by early November we shall have a good indication of how products performed and the information will be used by the standards committee in moving forward. The ASABE X633 standard for soil moisture sensors has refined the testing procedure, but still needs to do some additional testing with multiple soil types. The Irrigation Association continues to work alongside EPA WaterSense in identifying a testing procedure that could be used as part of the testing specification for labeling of soil moisture sensors.

For documentation of water savings potential of irrigation controllers, we believe that the data collected by EPA WaterSense program for weather-based controllers has shown them to be effective in reducing landscape water use.

The Irrigation Association is not aware of any new information about the energy savings of new irrigation controllers other than to note that irrigation controllers have transitioned over the years from mechanical devices to almost exclusively electronic devices. We feel the energy savings that have been documented for other products such as set top boxes would be applicable to irrigation controllers. We believe that as the electronics industry finds ways to save energy, that technology will be adopted and adapted by manufacturers of irrigation control products.