

SSL Postings

This week in Miami at the Illuminating Engineering Society's Street and Area Lighting Conference, DOE's [Municipal Solid-State Street Lighting Consortium](#) introduced its latest tool, a long-awaited Model Specification for Adaptive Control and Remote Monitoring of LED Roadway Luminaires. The new model spec, which complements a [Model Specification for LED Roadway Luminaires](#), is released in draft form for public review and comment, so if you're a Consortium member, a manufacturer, or an interested lighting professional, we invite you to check it out and weigh in with your thoughts. The draft specification is posted online at www.ssl.energy.gov/consortium.html, and comments should be forwarded to MSSLC@seattle.gov by October 12.

The estimated 26.5 million streetlights in the U.S. consume as much electricity each year as 1.9 million households, and generate greenhouse gas emissions equal to that produced by 2.6 million cars. Switching these streetlights to LEDs can save energy and money – and incorporating remote monitoring and adaptive lighting control systems can increase those savings substantially.

Developed by the Consortium's Adaptive Control and Remote Monitoring Committee, which is made up of representatives from municipalities, electric utilities, and other stakeholders, the draft specification is intended to serve as both a set of high-level requirements and a template for translating unique user needs into clear and consistent specification language. The hope is that it will support the breadth of system architectures and features available in the marketplace, while encouraging the development of standards that reduce user risk and ultimately accelerate the adoption of this energy-saving technology. Because municipalities and utilities have varying needs for adaptive control and remote monitoring systems, the model specification incorporates options to facilitate customization for each user. A companion user's guide will be developed in the future to help users customize the model to meet their needs.

It should be noted that the new specification is only a draft at this stage and thus is not

recommended for use. Widespread public comment is essential, so that the tool can be honed and fine-tuned to a point where it can function with maximum effectiveness to help users improve service and conserve energy. Although the committee that developed it interviewed several manufacturers for guidance and also held a manufacturer's workshop, it's important for even more manufacturers – as well as a wider group of participants in general – to weigh in.

All of the comments received will be reviewed and evaluated with a focus on improving the quality and functionality of the model specification. Only then will a version that's ready for public use be posted to the Consortium website. That version will be followed by others, because the model spec is intended to be a living document that improves over time and changes to meet user needs and address marketplace developments.

Our thanks go out to the Consortium's Adaptive Control and Remote Monitoring Committee for their hard work in developing the draft specification – and for the work they'll do in fine-tuning it to a published version. Whether or not you're a Consortium member, you can be a part of that process by providing your comments. To do so, please visit www.ssl.energy.gov/consortium.html.

As always, if you have questions or comments, you can reach us at postings@lightingfacts.com