



Dear DLC Members and Stakeholders:

The DesignLights Consortium (DLC) is pleased to release Draft 1 of the Networked Lighting Controls (NLC) Technical Requirements Version 5.2. The DLC is committed to providing decision makers with data and resources on quality lighting, controls, and integrated building systems to reduce energy use, carbon emissions and light pollution. Through the [NLC Qualified Products List \(QPL\)](#) and its technical requirements, the DLC helps efficiency programs, manufacturers, specifiers, and building owners identify NLC systems that provide reliable performance, security, and measurable energy impacts.

With each new version of the technical requirements, the DLC has worked closely with manufacturers, utilities, researchers, and other stakeholders to ensure that the NLC program continues to reflect both technological progress and real-world deployment experience. Previously, the DLC updated the technical requirements to support interoperability, energy reporting, and integration with other building systems, helping align the NLC program with broader trends toward connected and data-enabled building infrastructure.

Version 5.2 of the NLC Technical Requirements focuses on these goals:

- Highlight emerging capabilities in networked lighting controls
- Strengthen the role of NLC in energy efficiency programs by:
- Simplify and improve the QPL experience
- Improve visibility across connected product categories

Together, these changes reinforce the role of networked lighting controls as a foundation for integrated building controls and deeper energy savings across building systems. The DLC has also created the [NLC-HVAC Integration Toolkit](#), which provides a framework and case studies to pursue successful, energy-saving integration projects.

Additionally, to support opportunities in horticulture energy efficiency programs, language has been added to allow horticultural control systems that meet these requirements to be listed on the NLC QPL.

Public Comment Period

The DLC welcomes stakeholder feedback on Draft 1 of the NLC Version 5.2 Technical Requirements.

- **Draft Release Date:** March 30, 2026
- **Comment Period Closes:** May 8, 2026

Stakeholder input is a critical part of the DLC's process and helps ensure that updates are practical, effective, and aligned with market needs.

Supporting Resources

- [NLC V5.2 Draft 1 Technical Requirements \(PDF\)](#)
- [Comment Submission Form](#)

Upcoming Webinar

Join the DLC for an overview of the proposed updates in [NLC V5.2 Draft 1](#). This session will walk through key changes and provide an opportunity to ask questions ahead of the close of the comment period.