



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

April 2, 2007

Dear ENERGY STAR® TV Stakeholder,

In September 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced its intention to revise the current Version 2.2 ENERGY STAR specification for televisions, television combination units and VCRs (TV/VCR products specification). As an important first step in this process, EPA sought a well vetted, active mode test procedure. Such a test procedure is now available. Thus, the purpose of this letter is to inform stakeholders that EPA is now taking the next step in revising the ENERGY STAR specification for televisions. With this letter, EPA is:

- Requesting feedback on the Draft version of IEC 62087: Methods of Measurement for the Power Consumption of Audio, Video and Related Equipment name, which includes new active mode power consumption testing procedures, including evaluation through testing;
- Providing responses to comments submitted by stakeholders on the ENERGY STAR Qualified Televisions Specification Revision Update document;
- Sharing an updated Draft timeline for the ENERGY STAR TV specification revision process; and,
- Reminding partners to update their listing of current ENERGY STAR qualified models through the Online Product Submittal tool.

Test Procedure Development Update

Since the specification revision announcement, EPA has been working closely with a group within the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) to develop a test procedure to accurately and fairly measure the active mode power consumption of TVs, irrespective of technology. The IEC took this project on knowing that there is considerable interest, both in the U.S. and abroad, in the development of an internationally accredited test procedure for measuring TV power consumption. Members of the IEC TC100 group worked hard to develop a solid test procedure in a relatively short amount of time, while ensuring compliance with correct IEC procedures. The IEC is allowing EPA to share the Draft with ENERGY STAR stakeholders ahead of official publication of the standard so that evaluation and testing to aid in the development of Draft 1 Version 3.0 specification levels can begin

Stakeholders who anticipate conducting product testing using the Draft standard should contact Mehernaz Polad, ICF International, via e-mail at mpolad@icfi.com to request access to the standard and test-clip that accompanies IEC 62087 for active mode testing. Please note: EPA expects that all stakeholders who request access to the standard and test-clip will share testing data to be used in the ENERGY STAR TV specification revision process. This is the sole reason that the Draft standard and accompanying test-clip have been made available to EPA and ENERGY STAR stakeholders. We strongly encourage manufacturers to test a range of their most current and popular models so that the resulting dataset is truly representative of the products available in the marketplace now and for the coming year while the specification is under development. We encourage you to submit your test results using the attached ENERGY STAR TV Data Collection Worksheet (Excel version provided). Stakeholders should note that the attached version of IEC 62087 is a Draft and is currently undergoing IEC committee review.

Data received by May 7, 2007, will be considered for the Draft 1 Version 3.0 specification. After this date, stakeholders will no longer be able to access the test-clip. All data shared with the EPA will be masked prior to being made public. Additionally, the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA) has offered to collect and aggregate test data on behalf of TV manufacturers. Interested parties may contact Doug Johnson at djohnson@ce.org or Brian Markwalter at bmarkwalter@ce.org.

Comments Received on TV Update Document

On January 3, 2007, EPA distributed a TV Specification Revision Update document to stakeholders, which provided information on the proposed direction of the new TV specification and identified key issues and questions for stakeholder feedback. EPA would like to thank all stakeholders who provided feedback in response to the Update document. The attached comment-response document summarizes those comments. EPA expects many of these comments to be the basis of discussion during the development of the revised specification.

Updated Specification Revision Timeline

Below is an updated Draft timeline for the ENERGY STAR TV specification revision process.

January 3, 2007: EPA distributes ENERGY STAR TV Specification Update – comments due February 2

April 2, 2007: EPA distributes request for TV test data, which includes Draft TV test procedure and a set of test-clips (available by request) – data to be submitted to EPA by May 7

June 4, 2007: EPA distributes ENERGY STAR Draft 1 TV Specification – comments due June 29

June 20, 2007: EPA hosts TV Stakeholder Meeting to discuss Draft 1 – location TBD

July 23, 2007: EPA distributes ENERGY STAR Draft 2 TV Specification – comments due August 17

August 8, 2007: EPA hosts TV Stakeholder Meeting to discuss Draft 2 – location TBD

September 10, 2007: EPA distributes ENERGY STAR Draft 3 TV Specification (if needed) – comments due October 5

October 22, 2007: EPA distributes ENERGY STAR Draft Final TV Specification – comments due November 9

November 29, 2007: EPA distributes ENERGY STAR Final TV Specification

September 1, 2008: Specification becomes effective

Qualified Products Lists Reminder

EPA would like to remind ENERGY STAR TV partners to update their qualified product lists at www.energystar.gov as frequently as possible to ensure lists remain current. Consumers can become frustrated when they find models listed on the ENERGY STAR Web site that are no longer available. As such, manufacturers are requested to review those models they currently have listed as qualified through the Online Product Submittal tool, available at www.energystar.gov/ops, and (1) remove those products that are no longer being manufactured and (2) add new models that are qualified but not yet listed. The latter ensures that consumers receive complete information on qualified models when searching on the ENERGY STAR Web site, and lists are complete when EPA conducts its annual Retail Store Level assessment – an in-store check to determine products are being correctly identified as ENERGY STAR qualified.

I very much look forward to working with you to revise the ENERGY STAR television specification such that it recognizes leadership products when it comes to energy efficiency. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or concerns at (202) 343-9120 or via e-mail at kaplan.katharine@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Katharine Kaplan
ENERGY STAR Program Manager: Consumer Electronics & Office Equipment

Enclosures:

1. ENERGY STAR TV Data Collection Worksheet & Testing Instructions
2. Comment Summary for ENERGY STAR TV Specification Revision Update Document