

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

April 23, 2008

Dear ENERGY STAR® Set-top Box Stakeholder:

I am pleased to inform you that the Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR set-top box products specification and the ENERGY STAR partnership requirements for cable, satellite, and telecom service providers have been finalized. The set-top box technical specification will take effect on January 1, 2009 and the partnership for service providers will become effective immediately. Your valuable feedback throughout the development process has been integral to the design of the specification. Stakeholder feedback, all Draft versions of the specifications, and related proposals can be viewed on the *Revisions to Existing Product Specifications in Development* Web page at: [www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment](http://www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment).

Enclosed, you will find the ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for set-top boxes and Program Requirements for service providers. Based on careful consideration of stakeholder feedback, the following changes have been made to the Final Version 2.0 technical specification:

- The definition of Sleep mode and auto power down have been clarified.
- A footnote has been added to the Tier 2 energy allowances to clarify that they are preliminary and will be revisited at least nine months prior to the Tier 2 effective date.
- Footnotes have been added to Table 2 to clarify the application of additional allowances.
- Clarification has been added on testing Multi room boxes and applying the Multi room energy allowance.
- The requirement for permitting users to opt out of speculative recording has been clarified and amended.
- Minor text edits have been made to improve clarity of the document, including the way in which refurbished boxes with external power supplies are described and correcting the reference to DLNA.
- Explanatory text boxes and line numbering have been removed.

EPA also has made the following changes to the ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for Cable, Satellite, and Telecom Service Providers:

- The fleet requirement has been reduced to 10% in 2009 and 25% in 2010.
- Minor text edits have been made to improve clarity of the document.
- Explanatory text boxes and line numbering have been removed.

The ENERGY STAR Test Procedure for set-top boxes has been slightly modified to include instructions for testing products with external devices and those that lack picture-in-picture capability, and to clarify the resolutions used for the reference channels. The updated test procedure is included for your reference.

After multiple iterations of these Program Requirements, including proposals on discrete sections of the requirements, and active discussions with stakeholders, EPA considers the final specification language to be well vetted. Although EPA received several comments on the Final Draft documents, much of the input had previously been provided and carefully considered and, thus, did not result in a change to the specification text. These comments and an explanation of EPA's rationale for not incorporating them in the Program Requirements are included in the attached Comment Response Document.

Some stakeholders have raised questions about the method of applying additional functionalities energy allowances in Table 2 of the technical specification to the base energy allowances in Table 1 to determine if a

product qualifies for ENERGY STAR. To assist with such calculations and to eliminate any confusion, EPA has developed the attached STB allowance calculator.

Also attached for your review are a draft data collection form for the annual submission of data to EPA or through a third party and a revised draft Qualified Product Information (QPI) form. The data collection form is a draft of the form on which manufacturing partners will report annual qualified shipments, and on which service providers will provide annual data on new purchases or percent of current fleet that meets ENERGY STAR requirements. The QPI form has been modified from the version included with release of the Final Draft documents by addition of a field to capture information about LNBs. Please note that this is only a draft form for your review, and should not be used at this time to submit data on qualified products. As the effective date for the technical specification draws nearer, EPA will finalize and distribute the QPI form to prospective manufacturing partners along with instructions on how to become an ENERGY STAR partner and submit qualified product data.

EPA is pleased to invite service providers to join as ENERGY STAR partners immediately if they wish. In order to indicate your intent to partner with ENERGY STAR, please complete and sign the attached Partnership Agreement and Commitment Form and return the materials according to the instructions on the form.

EPA wishes to express its sincere gratitude to all stakeholders who provided feedback during the set-top box products specifications revision process. On behalf of EPA, I appreciate your participation in the development of these specifications and look forward to working with each of you as you qualify and market your energy-efficient set-top boxes and work to deploy energy-efficient boxes into subscribers' homes. If you have any questions or concerns about the specification or partnership process, please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9120 or [kaplan.katharine@epa.gov](mailto:kaplan.katharine@epa.gov).

Best Regards,



Katharine Kaplan, EPA Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR for Consumer Electronics

Enclosures:

- Final ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for Cable, Satellite, and Telecom Service Providers
- Final Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for Set-top Boxes
- Summary of Comments on the Final Draft ENERGY STAR STB Specifications with EPA Responses
- ENERGY STAR Set-top Box Test Procedure
- Draft ENERGY STAR Qualified Product Information Form for Set-top Boxes
- Draft ENERGY STAR Data Collection Form for Submission of Annual Data
- ENERGY STAR Partnership Agreement
- ENERGY STAR Commitment Form
- STB Allowance Calculator