

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

October 26, 2004

Dear Power Supply Manufacturer, ENERGY STAR® Partner or Other Interested Party:

EPA welcomes your input on the **Draft 4** ENERGY STAR specification for single voltage external ac-dc and ac-ac power supplies. This document outlines the criteria that manufacturers' models will need to meet to qualify for ENERGY STAR. All manufacturers and other interested parties are encouraged to review this **final draft specification** and provide comments by **November 19, 2004**.

Several stakeholders provided comments for EPA's consideration in developing the Draft 4 specification. Where agreed to by the author, written comments submitted to EPA on the first three drafts of the specification have been posted on the ENERGY STAR Web site at [www.energystar.gov/powersuppliesdevelopment](http://www.energystar.gov/powersuppliesdevelopment).

Of note, the Active and No-Load performance requirements for Tiers 1 and 2 have **not** been modified in this Draft 4 specification. Consistent with ENERGY STAR's principles, the Tier 1 levels represent the top 23 percent of models in EPA's data set. Aside from the specific performance levels, some other changes have been incorporated into the latest draft and are highlighted briefly below:

- Language has been added in Section 1, Definitions, that temporarily excludes a subset of external power supplies with battery charging functionality typically found in household appliances. The exclusion will be in place from January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. This change will allow EPA to further investigate these *battery charging systems* (as they are referred to in EPA documents for brevity and consistency) and, as necessary, develop a test method and specification that will best capture their energy savings opportunities.
- Section 4.A, Safety Standards, has been revised to more generally convey ENERGY STAR's guiding principle that product quality and safety should never be compromised for energy efficiency. This change was made due to the volume of safety standards, and the frequent need for updates.
- The Tier 1 effective date has been delayed by two months to January 1, 2005. Manufacturers who join ENERGY STAR and test their products according to program guidelines may begin to promote their ENERGY STAR models as of the effective date.

*and*

- Finally, a new Section 7, International Efficiency Marking Protocol, has been added. This marking protocol, which has initial support from Australia, China, and the United States, will provide a universal system for power supply manufacturers, end-use product manufacturers, and government representatives to determine the minimum energy performance of an external power supply. Additional details are provided in Draft 4. Stakeholder feedback on the protocol and implementation timeframe is requested, as this new requirement will not take effect immediately.

The complete rationale behind EPA's decision to incorporate these changes can be found within the note boxes provided in the Draft 4 specification.

Also enclosed are the ENERGY STAR Partner Commitments and an Appendix with examples of the correct usage of the ENERGY STAR mark. These documents have not changed and are being redistributed only for your convenient reference. Additional partnership materials, such as the qualified product submission form, will soon be available on the ENERGY STAR Web site.

EPA recently introduced the specification (as a draft that is close to completion) and presented the requirements or rules for participation, with the China Certification Center for Energy Conservation Products (CECP), at the 10<sup>th</sup> China International Power Supply Exhibition (PowerChina 2004) in Beijing, China, September 27-29, 2004. In addition, EPA is making plans to promote ENERGY STAR for External Power Supplies at several upcoming industry events, including the 2005 Consumer Electronics Show (CES) and the Applied Power Electronics Conference and Exposition (APEC) 2005.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to review Draft 4 of the ENERGY STAR specification for single voltage external ac-dc and ac-ac power supplies. Please be advised that this is the final opportunity to provide feedback before the ENERGY STAR external power supply specification is finalized. Comments should be sent to Brooke Taylor, ICF Consulting, at [btaylor@icfconsulting.com](mailto:btaylor@icfconsulting.com) by November 19, 2004. Feedback received by this date will be considered for the Final Specification, which will take effect on January 1, 2005.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at (202) 343-9019 or [fanara.andrew@epa.gov](mailto:fanara.andrew@epa.gov). Thanks again for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Fanara', is written over a horizontal line. A vertical red line is positioned to the right of the signature.

Andrew Fanara  
ENERGY STAR Product Development

Enclosures:

- Draft 4 ENERGY STAR Specification for Single Voltage External Ac-Dc and Ac-Ac Power Supplies (with accompanying flowchart)
- ENERGY STAR Partner Commitments for External Power Supplies
- Appendix: Labeling Examples