



October 3, 2002

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Consumer Electronics Partner:

In June, you received a letter from ENERGY STAR concerning EPA's new compliance testing initiative, which supports our efforts to ensure that the program delivers on all of its energy-efficiency promises. Today, I am writing to inform you that digital versatile disc (DVD) products have been selected for the next phase of testing.

Later this month, EPA will begin testing a sample of qualified DVD products to verify compliance with the ENERGY STAR specifications. The goal of this testing initiative is to identify potential compliance problems and set in motion a review process to ensure manufacturers take corrective measures as appropriate.

In selecting product models for testing, EPA will target the most popular products on the market, as they are reaching the greatest number of consumers. We will systematically identify these models based on unit sales while also accounting for a range of product features, prices, and manufacturers.

Partners whose product(s) have been selected for testing will be notified soon in writing. The notification letter will indicate the model(s) selected and the time frame for testing. F-Squared Laboratories, an independent laboratory located in Damascus, Maryland, will be conducting the testing for selected products.

Three units of each model will be tested according to ENERGY STAR product testing guidelines. The guidelines for DVDs can be found at <http://www.energystar.gov/library>.

Once testing is complete, partners will receive written notification of the results for their products. Should a model fail to meet the ENERGY STAR specifications, the partner will have 30 days to submit information based on its own test data to verify that the model is in compliance with the current specifications. ENERGY STAR will remove the model in question from the qualifying product list *only* if the partner fails to adequately respond within the 30-day time frame, the partner's test data does not fulfill the ENERGY STAR requirements, or the partner acknowledges the product is mislabeled. The procedure for data submittal will be outlined in greater detail in a letter to all manufacturers with specific products under test.

In closing, it is important to note that ENERGY STAR will continue to be a self-certification program, although EPA requires third-party test data for some product categories and reserves the right to request additional test data on a case-by-case basis. This compliance testing initiative does not replace industry-testing efforts; rather, it is designed to monitor the marketplace, protect EPA and partner investments in ENERGY STAR, and ensure that consumer confidence in ENERGY STAR is never compromised.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support of the ENERGY STAR compliance testing initiative. We are committed to maintaining open communication and dialogue with manufacturers and their representatives throughout the testing process. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please contact Andrew Fanara at (202) 564-9019 or Robin Clark with ICF Consulting at (202) 862-1223 or rclark@icfconsulting.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Bailey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Bailey, Chief
ENERGY STAR Labeling Branch
US EPA