



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

DATE: September 12, 2003

TO: ENERGY STAR® Telephony Partners and Other Interested Parties

FROM: Craig Hershberg, Product Manager

RE: Notice to Extend Tier 1 Criteria for ENERGY STAR Qualifying Telephony Products

This letter is to inform ENERGY STAR partners and other interested parties that EPA is extending Tier 1 of the ENERGY STAR telephony specification, thereby delaying the implementation of Tier 2 requirements, originally scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2004. Tier 1 requirements will remain in effect on January 1, 2004 and will continue to be in effect until December 31, 2004.

It has come to EPA's attention that it is necessary to review the current Tier 2 specification and make appropriate adjustments to ensure the specification will be relevant (i.e., accurately reflect the most energy-efficient models on the market) when it takes effect. In terms of energy efficiency, telephony technology and the telephony marketplace have not progressed as quickly as originally envisioned when the specification was introduced in 2002.

Therefore, in addition to extending Tier 1, EPA will revise the ENERGY STAR telephony requirements. As mentioned above, the current Tier 1 requirements will remain in effect until December 31, 2004 and then revised Tier 2 requirements, to be set in conjunction with industry, are scheduled to take effect beginning January 1, 2005. In the 2006-2007 time frame, Tier 3 requirements will take effect. These Tier 3 requirements will likely use the currently outlined Tier 2 requirements, originally scheduled to take effect beginning January 1, 2004.

EPA has developed some preliminary criteria for the revised Tier 2 requirements. To discuss these and potentially other suggested criteria, EPA plans to hold meetings and / or conference calls with individual manufacturers and other interested stakeholders. In the meantime, if you have ideas or comments, please feel free to contact me at (202) 564-1251 or by e-mail at hershberg.craig@epa.gov. **Correspondence outlining any proposed changes will be shared with all stakeholders for review and comment when it is available.**

Communication between EPA and partners/stakeholders will be handled similarly to other ENERGY STAR specification development activities. EPA will post any relevant information about telephony, including draft specifications, meeting announcements, meeting summaries, written comments submitted by manufacturers and others, and other forms of communication on the Product Development portion of the ENERGY STAR Web site at www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment.

Thank you for your attention and ongoing support of ENERGY STAR.