

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

February 7, 2011

Dear Data Center Storage Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

This letter is intended to inform stakeholders of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) interest in energy performance data for storage products that are currently being considered for inclusion in the Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR[®] Data Center Storage specification.

The EPA initially built its storage data set in early 2010 with substantial help from stakeholders. A total of 17 unique storage product platforms were tested, some several times, for a total of 42 data points. In order to most effectively supplement this existing data set, EPA wishes to add data for systems in the Online and Removable Media Library taxonomy segments identified in the SNIA Green Storage Power Measurement Specification.¹

The goal of this effort is to further EPA's understanding of the relationship between hardware/software configuration and energy performance in both active and idle states. EPA is specifically interested in the effects of single-variable configuration changes on power consumption. Items such as Hard Disk Drive (HDD) selection (e.g., capacity vs. performance), Reliability-Availability-Serviceability (RAS) features (e.g., single vs. redundant controllers, RAID level), and use of Small Form Factor (SFF) and Solid State Disk (SSD) drive technologies are all of interest. EPA has provided additional guidance on specific areas of focus for this supplemental data set construction process in the attached document.

EPA is appreciative of all stakeholder contributions to date, understands the continued limitations on time, personnel, and hardware resources for this effort, and understands that all responses are subject to the goodwill and best efforts of program participants.

Additional data will be anonymized and posted to the ENERGY STAR website in preparation for a subsequent draft of the Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR Data Center Storage specification. EPA is using the attached data entry sheet as it augments its dataset. EPA will consider additional data received at storage@energystar.gov no later than **Friday, April 22, 2011**.

EPA plans to host a conference call on **Wednesday, February 23, 2011, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM ET** to discuss the topics covered in the attached document, and to respond to stakeholder questions. You may RSVP for this call via email to storage@energystar.gov.

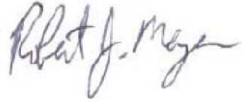
Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program. If you have any questions regarding these documents, please feel free to contact me at song.una@epa.gov or (202) 343-9205, RJ Meyers at meyers.robert@epa.gov or (202) 343-9923, or Stephen Pantano, ICF International, at spantano@icfi.com or (202) 862-1551.

¹ http://www.snia.org/tech_activities/publicreview/GreenPower_v018.pdf

Sincerely,



Una Song



RJ Meyers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ENERGY STAR Product Development