

Subject: ENERGY STAR: Data Center Storage Testing Discussion Document

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Dear ENERGY STAR® Data Center Storage Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released Draft 3 of the ENERGY STAR Data Center Storage V1.0 specification on June 22, 2012. This draft contained a number of new proposals developed in discussions with stakeholders over the previous six months. One of the major changes contained in the document was a proposal to test workload optimized, homogeneous drive systems and then allow them to be combined into mixed drive systems. Some stakeholders have responded by advocating for a shift back to heterogeneous system testing, while others have supported the homogeneous test proposal. To facilitate an open and transparent discussion on this important topic, EPA has developed the attached document to highlight its concerns with heterogeneous system testing and to continue the existing conversation on the merits of different approaches to system level testing of storage products.

EPA plans to hold a stakeholder conference call to discuss the issues raised in this document on Wednesday, September 5th from 3-4 PM Eastern Time. We hope that this will provide all parties an opportunity to further discuss their concerns with the two approaches proposed thus far—homogeneous vs. heterogeneous testing. **To participate, please RSVP by emailing storage@energystar.gov by Monday, September 3rd.** Call-in details will be distributed to RSVPs prior to the meeting.

Please direct any specific questions on specification development to RJ Meyers, EPA, at Meyers.Robert@epa.gov, or 202-343-9923; or John Clinger, ICF International, at John.Clinger@icfi.com, or 202-572-9432.

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