

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

May 25, 2011

Dear ENERGY STAR® TV Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the following Draft 1 Version 6.0 ENERGY STAR TV specification.

This revision of the ENERGY STAR specification for TVs is prompted by signs that the response to the V5.3 specification going into effect later this year will lead to a quick jump in market share of qualifying TVs. More than a third of the models on the current ENERGY STAR qualified product list meet the V5.3 requirements and EPA expects that number to grow with the release of new models in the winter/spring of 2012. The attached document outlines the proposed energy efficiency requirements that TV products would need to meet in order to earn the ENERGY STAR under V6.0. EPA expects this revision will take effect in the spring of 2012.

In establishing the proposed performance levels, EPA analyzed data associated with over 400 ENERGY STAR television models released in late 2010 and to date in 2011. Discussion with major electronics retailers indicate that shelves are stocked mainly with 2011 models at this point, with a small set of 2010 models, introduced late in 2010, still available to consumers as well. A masked version of the dataset is attached to this distribution.

The Draft 1 Version 6.0 specification includes the following key elements:

- **On Mode Requirements:** The proposed requirements represent the top 20% of TVs in the EPA dataset. EPA believes the dataset to be reflective of models that will be available in 2012 at a price that remains cost effective to the consumer.
- **Harmonization with Displays Specification:** Recognizing the crossover use between televisions and displays, EPA is seeking to harmonize testing of these two ENERGY STAR product categories. EPA will propose use of the Televisions test methods in the Display Specification for smaller displays.
- **Automatic Brightness Control:** EPA is committed to supporting and adopting the Televisions test procedure currently under development by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). EPA will ensure harmonization between the ENERGY STAR test method contained in this document and the final DOE television test procedure.
- **Power Management:** EPA understands that manufacturers are developing and implementing innovative power management functions for Televisions such as occupancy sensors, proximity sensors

or timer functions. EPA would like to better understand these technologies, their prevalence in the market, and energy savings they offer consumers, and, as appropriate, encourage their broader application.

- **Testing Products How They Are Viewed:** EPA has a significant interest in ensuring that products are tested and qualified as ENERGY STAR in the mode in which they will ultimately be viewed in the home.
 - EPA welcomes stakeholder input on the prevalence of network connectivity for Televisions and the associated power consumption in both Sleep mode and On Mode when a network connection is activated. EPA is particularly interested in the possible methods of appropriately testing the power use associated with this feature.
 - Recent market data shows that a growing number of televisions are currently being shipped with internet connectivity enabled. EPA welcomes additional stakeholder input on the frequency with which consumers are viewing internet content using their Televisions and the viability of using the Internet Test loop found in IEC 62087 as a part of the On Mode requirements for ENERGY STAR.

- **Preventing Unintended Consequences:** EPA has expressed an interest in working with LCD industry stakeholders through the ENERGY STAR program to reduce emissions of high global warming potential gases associated with LCD production. For Version 6.0, EPA is proposing to introduce a new Partner Commitment for TV manufacturers, asking them to source LCD components from suppliers who have demonstrated that they are reducing fluorinated GHG emissions in LCD production. In the interest of offering the features consumers value, EPA expects to require ENERGY STAR qualified Televisions to meet maximum toxicity requirements and be recyclable. EPA commits to referencing existing standards.

Stakeholders are requested to provide comments on the Draft 1 specification no later than June 20, 2011. Please send comments via e-mail to Owen Sanford, ICF International, osanford@icfi.com or to televisions@energystar.gov. All comments received will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site, unless the submitter specifically requests that his or her comments remain confidential.

TV Stakeholder Meeting to Discuss Draft 1

On June 8, 2011 from 1 pm–4 pm, Eastern Time, EPA will host a stakeholder webinar to present details on the revisions made in the Draft 1 Version 6.0 ENERGY STAR specification and the data analysis performed to date, as well as address stakeholder questions and concerns regarding the proposed changes. If you wish to attend this meeting, please RSVP to Owen Sanford, osanford@icfi.com or to televisions@energystar.gov no later than June 3, 2011 with the subject line “RSVP – ES Televisions June 8 Meeting.”

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. To track EPA’s progress in revising the ENERGY STAR TV products specification and to review comments, please visit the Product Development Web site at www.energystar.gov/RevisedSpecs and click on “Televisions.”

Thank you for taking the time to review this draft specification. Please contact Verena Radulovic, EPA, at Radulovic.verena@epa.gov or (202) 343-9845 or Katharine Kaplan, EPA at Kaplan.katharine@epa.gov or (202) 343-9120 with any questions or concerns,

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Verena Radulovic".

Verena Radulovic, U.S. EPA
ENERGY STAR for Consumer Electronics

Enclosures:

Version 6.0 Televisions Partner Commitments
Draft 1 Version 6.0 Televisions Specification
Draft 1 Version 6.0 Televisions Test Method
Version 6.0 Data Set