

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



**OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION**

February 3, 2012

Dear ENERGY STAR® Televisions Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Draft 2 Version 6.0 ENERGY STAR Televisions specification. The attached documents outline the proposed energy efficiency requirements that TV products would need to meet in order to earn the ENERGY STAR under Version 6.0 and highlights an important step in harmonizing with the Department of Energy's Test Procedure for Television Sets Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR). EPA expects this revision will take effect in early 2013.

The Draft 2 Version 6.0 specification includes the following key elements:

- **Test Method:** EPA is committed to adopting the television test procedure currently under development by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). In an effort to provide partners with certainty now and honor the Agency's intention to harmonize with the final DOE Test Procedure, this Draft 2 Version 6.0 proposes the use of the DOE TV Test Procedure NOPR, where applicable, most notably with regard to Automatic Brightness Control (ABC). Given the current high market share of ENERGY STAR qualified Televisions, EPA intends to finalize Version 6.0 in March 2012, with the specification taking effect in early 2013. EPA commits to working with stakeholders in the period in between Draft 2 and the March finalization to address any differences between DOE's TV Test Procedure NOPR and ENERGY STAR's current test method.

Depending on the timing of the publication and the extent of any changes made in the final DOE Test Procedure, if the publication of the final DOE Test Procedure does not impact qualification of products under Version 6.0, EPA will issue a modification (i.e. Version 6.1), referencing the final Test Procedure. Should DOE's final test method differ significantly from its TV TP NOPR, wherein the qualification of products under Version 6.0 is impacted, EPA will accelerate the development of a Version 7.0 such that manufacturers adhere to DOE's final test method. More information on the Department of Energy's TV TP NOPR is available at: http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/residential/tv_sets.html

The DOE TV TP NOPR as published in the Federal Register is available at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-01-19/pdf/2012-687.pdf>

- **On Mode Requirements:** In establishing the proposed performance levels, EPA re-evaluated its data for nearly 1700 Television models released or scheduled for release in 2011 and 2012. Stakeholders have indicated that this dataset is reflective of the current Television market. A masked version of the dataset is attached to this distribution. Based on this dataset, EPA has

proposed 2013 performance levels intended to differentiate top performers while allowing for good selection of products across all screen sizes available at a price that remains cost effective.

- **Correction Factor for ABC:** EPA understands that the new ABC test method will affect the reported On Mode power of a television. In order to preserve the utility of its large dataset and avoid retesting all products, EPA conducted additional testing and analysis and derived a correction factor, which was used to estimate how televisions tested under the old ABC test method would perform under the new method. Additional information on this correction can be found in the attached document titled “Proposed Data Correction for ABC.”
- **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. As additional information about these technologies becomes available, EPA is exploring ways to encourage their use and seeks additional information about these functions, their savings, and projected market presence.
- **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. Recent market data shows that more televisions are shipped with internet connectivity enabled. Therefore EPA proposes retaining an additional test to gather data on the energy use associated with network connectivity, especially when a TV is in Sleep Mode, to be used to inform a future specification.

F-GHGs in LCD Production: EPA continues to be interested in working with LCD industry stakeholders through the ENERGY STAR program to reduce emissions of high global warming potential gases associated with LCD production. In light of the longer timeframes associated with implementing F-GHG abatement efforts, EPA is exploring alternative, near-term approaches to addressing the issue that are outside the scope of the ENERGY STAR specification for televisions.

Stakeholders are requested to provide comments on the Draft 2 specification no later than March 2, 2012. 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 Webinar to Discuss Draft 2

On February 15, 2012, from 1pm-3pm, Eastern Time, EPA will host a stakeholder webinar to present details on the revisions made in the Draft 2 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 February 14, 2012, with the subject line “RSVP – ES Televisions February 15 Webinar.”

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. With questions or concerns, please contact Verena Radulovic, EPA, at Radulovic.verena@epa.gov or (202) 343-9845 or Owen Sanford, ICF International at OSanford@icfi.com or (202) 862-1141.

Best Regards,

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

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

Enclosures:

Draft Partner Commitment

Draft 2 Version 6.0 ENERGY STAR TV Products Specification

Proposed Data Correction for ABC

Masked Data-set Used to Determine Proposed Draft 2 Energy-Efficiency Requirements and Chart