

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

April 13, 2006

Dear ENERGY STAR® Computer Partner or Other Industry Stakeholder:

EPA welcomes your comments on the attached **Draft 2** ENERGY STAR (Version 4.0) Computer Specification. All stakeholder comments submitted to EPA on the previous Draft 1 version were reviewed and taken into consideration while preparing this Draft 2 document.

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide comments on this latest draft version to Katharine Kaplan Osdoba, EPA, at [Osdoba.katharine@epa.gov](mailto:Osdoba.katharine@epa.gov) or Arthur Howard, ICF Consulting, at [ahoward@icfconsulting.com](mailto:ahoward@icfconsulting.com) by **May 8, 2006**. EPA will review, evaluate, and address, as appropriate, stakeholder comments prior to the next **Computer Specification Stakeholder Meeting, planned for May 18, 2006, in Washington, DC**. Details regarding the location and agenda for the May 18<sup>th</sup> stakeholder meeting will be forthcoming. To RSVP for this meeting, please contact Arthur Howard at [ahoward@icfconsulting.com](mailto:ahoward@icfconsulting.com) or (202) 862-1237.

Provided below is a list of the key changes reflected in the attached Draft 2 Computer Specification. Note boxes are included throughout the draft specification to clarify EPA's reasoning for making the reflected changes. In summary, EPA has:

- Proposed an electronic labeling option as an alternative to physical labeling of products.
- Refined definitions for computers, external power supplies, internal power supplies, workstations, and desktop-derived servers to reflect capability, form factor, and purpose.
- Reorganized the draft specification to streamline the requirements that apply across all computer types. There is now a stand alone power supply subsection in which a minimum 80% internal power supply efficiency requirement is proposed across all product categories.
- Honed the proposed delineation of desktops by capability such that the draft specification now parses desktops by more detailed quantitative distinctions such as Mb of video memory, number of processor cores, Mb of system memory, etc. A short document has also been attached to explain the rationale for the proposed Idle levels for each of the two capability categories for desktop computers.
- Revised levels for the various operational modes for each of the product categories based on testing conducted by EPA and data submitted to EPA by industry members.
- Noted that Wake On Lan (WOL) enabling will only be required in Sleep (no longer required in Standby) and only when shipped through enterprise channels. EPA also proposed additional power allowances for system memory in Sleep and WOL in both Sleep and Standby. Specifically, EPA is proposing a 0.7 Watt allowance for WOL enabled and a 0.2 Watt allowance for each memory module greater than two.

- Grouped game consoles and desktop-derived servers with other “advanced capability,” now referred to as Category A, desktop computers for the purposes of setting performance levels for Standby and Idle. Integrated computers are now required to meet the same Standby, Sleep, and Idle levels as desktop computers.
- Removed the previously proposed Provisional Tier 2 Idle levels. EPA will set these levels based on the top 25% of EPA’s dataset closer to the time that Tier 2 becomes effective.
- Extended the Tier 1 effective date from January 1, 2007 to July 1, 2007. This extension is intended to allow manufacturers time to meet the proposed Tier 1 80% internal power supply efficiency requirement. Based on discussions with both computer manufacturers and suppliers of efficient power supplies, EPA feels confident that an 80% efficiency requirement is achievable on or before July 1, 2007. Additionally, EPA appreciates that numerous manufacturers seek finality on this matter for product planning purposes. Thus, this Draft 2 specification is intended to forecast clearly that EPA intends to include this requirement, as written, in the Final Computer Specification. In conjunction with the new Tier 1 effective date, EPA is now proposing a new Tier 2 effective date of January 1, 2009.
- Consolidated the Sleep, Standby, and Idle test procedures, previously stand-alone documents, into one test method (Appendix A).
- Clarified that all computers will be required to be tested “as shipped” to the end user.

This draft also retains challenging power management criteria and the goal of achieving a 40% enabling rate nationally by 2010; 60% by 2012; and  $\geq$  80% by 2014.

The Draft 2 specification and stakeholder comments on the previous Draft 1 specification are available on the ENERGY STAR computer revision Web site at [www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment](http://www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment). EPA will also distribute, as well as post on the ENERGY STAR Web site, a masked version of the updated Idle data set. EPA will release the data set in time to collect stakeholder’s comments before the comment deadline. All comments on this Draft 2 specification will also be made available on the Web site upon approval from the submitting individual.

Thank you for your participation in this specification development process and continued support of the ENERGY STAR program. I look forward to receiving your valuable feedback on the Draft 2 specification and your participation in the May 18, 2006, stakeholder meeting.

Best Regards,



Katharine Kaplan Osdoba, U.S. EPA  
ENERGY STAR for Office Equipment

Attachments:

- Draft 2 ENERGY STAR (Version 4.0) Computer specification
- Rationale for Analysis of Idle Power Levels for the ENERGY STAR Computer Specification v4.0