

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

July 13, 2009

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Audio/Video Partner or Other Interested Party:

As you may be aware, the ENERGY STAR specification for Consumer Audio and DVD Products (Version 1.0) does not cover professional, automotive, or solely battery-powered products. Since the specification does not currently define the term professional, EPA is issuing this clarification to provide guidance on how this term should be interpreted.

For purposes of the ENERGY STAR program, professional products are those products intended for use in commercial applications. Since such products are likely to be in use for significant amounts of time (i.e., predominantly in On Mode), the current ENERGY STAR requirements, which address only Standby power consumption, are not designed to effectively identify the most energy efficient professional products.

With this clarification, EPA is confirming that products intended for use in commercial applications are not currently eligible for ENERGY STAR qualification. However, on a case-by-case basis, EPA will consider for qualification those professional products that are marketed for use in residential applications. To have such products considered for qualification, the Partner must provide the following:

1. Evidence of its intention to target the residential market as the primary end-use for the product. Information must be provided to EPA regarding marketing outlets and types of installers purchasing products (e.g., participation in trade shows targeted to consumers, advertisements in home AV publications).
2. A plan for reporting product unit shipment data. This plan shall indicate how the Partner intends to determine the number and percent of qualified products shipped for residential installation, e.g., those shipped to home AV installers. This unit shipment data shall be included in the Partner's annual Unit Shipment Data (USD) report as required by the Partner Commitments.

If approved for qualification, all marketing references to ENERGY STAR for these products must be accompanied by the following message: "ENERGY STAR is only applicable for residential installations of this product."

Please note that EPA is currently revising the ENERGY STAR Audio/DVD specification, and intends to include commercial products in the next specification revision. To track

EPA's progress, visit the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site at www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs.

Please direct any specific questions to Kathleen Vokes, EPA, at vokes.kathleen@epa.gov, or Stephen Pantano, ICF International, at spantano@icfi.com.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Vokes", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Kathleen Vokes
US Environmental Protection Agency