



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

February 16, 2010

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Uninterruptible Power Supply Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Specification Framework Document and proposed schedule for the Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR[®] Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) specification development process.

The Specification Framework is intended to invite stakeholder's input on EPA's early thinking specific to an ENERGY STAR program for UPS devices. As such, this document replays EPA's initial perspective on the industry, potential opportunities for energy savings, and questions for consideration. This preliminary content is intended to encourage creative and constructive feedback from stakeholders, and should not be considered final. Per the bi-lateral agreement on ENERGY STAR for IT, the European Union will collaborate with the US on the development of this specification. **The deadline for submitting comments on the Specification Framework is April 2, 2010. Please e-mail your comments to UPS@energystar.gov.**

The primary objectives of the ENERGY STAR Uninterruptible Power Supply specification are:

1. to provide purchasers with the means to identify the most energy efficient UPS solutions for their specific end-use application,
2. to provide tools and information to designers and managers looking to improve the efficiency of data center operations, and
3. to provide uniform efficiency testing conditions and reporting criteria to enable an informed purchase decision and efficiency-oriented comparison of products. EPA will look to harmonize energy efficiency requirements, where appropriate, to minimize the number of competing standards in the marketplace.

As a first step towards these objectives, EPA has included in the attached framework for discussion with stakeholders, the following:

- **Definitions:** This element is intended to explicitly define both those products that are covered by the specification and those that are not, and to clearly differentiate between UPS and other ENERGY STAR product categories. Definitions are also provided for operational modes, key components, and sub-classes of products.
- **Eligible Product Categories:** This element is intended to identify specific product categories to be covered by ENERGY STAR. EPA's intention is for the Version 1.0 specification to cover as much of the market as can be reasonably addressed in a timely manner, while maximizing the opportunities for energy savings.
- **Energy Efficiency Criteria & Test Procedures:** This element includes metrics for assessing the energy efficiency of UPS products from each Eligible Product Category. EPA will review a variety of solutions to achieve greater energy efficiency in UPS products. EPA will either adopt existing industry test procedures or develop new test procedures for use in the ENERGY STAR program.
- **Information & Management Requirements:** The recently released ENERGY STAR specification for Computer Servers instituted standardized data reporting requirements for qualifying products. EPA intends to implement similar reporting requirements for UPS products

intended for use in data center applications, to encourage manufacturers to publish standardized product energy performance data for use in capacity planning and hardware procurement.

Once comments on the Specification Framework have been received and evaluated, EPA will begin development of the Draft 1 ENERGY STAR specification for this product category. This and subsequent draft documents will be distributed to stakeholders for comment and posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site at www.energystar.gov/NewSpecs. The Web site will be regularly updated to include the latest specification development information; including draft proposals, meeting notices and presentations, EPA correspondence, public comments, and EPA responses. EPA will also host public conference calls and in-person meetings throughout the specification development process, on an as-needed basis, to promote an open and ongoing dialogue with stakeholders.

EPA proposes the following specification development timeline for consideration:

- February 16 – EPA distributes Specification Framework Document for review
- March 24 – Stakeholder meeting to discuss framework
- April 02 – Comments due on Specification Framework
- Ongoing – Draft specifications and comment periods
- 4Q-2010 – Target Specification finalization and effective date

Stakeholders are encouraged to review the Specification Framework and proposed schedule and send comments to UPS@energystar.gov no later than Friday, April 02, 2010.

Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program. If you have any questions regarding these documents, please feel free to contact me at vokes.kathleen@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Vokes", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathleen Vokes
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Climate Protection Partnerships Division
ENERGY STAR Program