

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

August 4, 2004

Dear ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Computer Partner or Interested Stakeholder:

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is beginning to revise the ENERGY STAR specification for computers. Stakeholder meetings will be scheduled and draft specifications issued in early 2005. In addition, I will present EPA's preliminary strategy for revising the ENERGY STAR specification for computers at the upcoming Intel Technology Symposium (ITS). The conference will be held on September 7-9, 2004 at the Moscone South Convention Center in San Francisco, CA. To learn more or to register, please visit <http://www.intel.com/idf/us/fall2004/systems/registration.htm>. For those who are not able to attend, EPA will post the presentation delivered at ITS on the ENERGY STAR Web site.

The Version 3.0, Tier 2 computer specification has been in place since July 2000 and currently, the ENERGY STAR qualified computer market share is estimated at 98 percent. In order to ensure that ENERGY STAR continues to differentiate the market for energy-efficient computers and accelerate the market penetration of energy-efficient technologies, the existing energy efficiency criteria must be evaluated and revised.

While the current computer specification focuses solely on low-power sleep modes, EPA is investigating the feasibility of a more comprehensive specification that addresses other modes, including active mode, as well as power supply efficiency. Throughout the specification revision process, EPA will evaluate proposed approaches and accompanying performance levels to ensure consistency with the ENERGY STAR guiding principles, which can be found at [www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment](http://www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment).

As a partner or stakeholder, you know that ENERGY STAR adds value by making it easy for consumers to identify computers that are more energy efficient than conventional models. Therefore, EPA does not intend to set an ENERGY STAR specification that all models can meet. Instead, the specification will be set initially to recognize approximately 25% of existing models. Once a performance specification is determined, EPA will take product design and manufacturing cycles into account when setting an effective date.

As EPA moves forward with revising the computer specification, we will solicit input from all stakeholders on an ongoing basis. Stakeholder participation is critical to developing a meaningful specification and to the overall success of ENERGY STAR. As such, we welcome your input and encourage you to periodically visit the ENERGY STAR Web site at [www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment](http://www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment) for important updates. Please contact me at (202) 343-9120 or [hershberg.craig@epa.gov](mailto:hershberg.craig@epa.gov) with any questions or comments.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Hershberg".

Craig Hershberg, EPA Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR for Office Equipment