

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

May 4, 2010

Dear ENERGY STAR® Television Stakeholder:

Effective May 1, 2010, televisions must meet the Version 4.1 requirements in order to be ENERGY STAR qualified. The purpose of this letter is to clarify a testing and qualification issue specific to televisions that download content other than ROVI Electronic Programming Guide (EPG) data (i.e., units destined for hospitality settings) in Download Acquisition Mode.

The ENERGY STAR specification for televisions requires for the first time that products meet an energy limit when in Download Acquisition Mode (DAM). DAM is defined as:

Where the product is connected to a mains power source, is not producing a sound or a picture, and is actively downloading channel listing information according to a defined schedule for use by the electronic programming guide, monitoring for emergency messaging/communications and/or otherwise communicating through a network protocol. The power use in this mode is typically greater than the power requirement in Sleep and less than that in On Mode.

During the specification development process, EPA worked with stakeholders to develop a test procedure suitable for measuring power used for downloading electronic program guide data. The agreed upon test protocol makes use of actual ROVI (TV Guide) data to exercise the television in DAM mode. However, this test protocol is not appropriate for units destined for hospitality settings.

With this letter, EPA is authorizing the use of a temporary test protocol for measuring DAM energy use for hospitality televisions, as defined in Version 4.1. Only televisions that meet the Version 4.1 definition for hospitality televisions may use this test procedure. These televisions are defined as: *A television with a control port for bi-directional communication (DB-9, RJ11, RJ12, RJ45, coaxial cable, or HDMI-CEC) AND activated hospitality protocol software (SmartPort, MPI, MTI, Serial Protocol, or similar control) for the purpose of direct access to Video-On-Demand, (VOD) systems or a digital media player designed for hospitality-specific applications.* All other televisions with a DAM mode must qualify using the existing ROVI DAM test protocol.

Hospitality televisions must meet the efficiency requirements noted in the relevant Version 4.1 specification, section 3.E.1. Partners qualifying hospitality televisions using the attached temporary DAM test procedure must submit a lab report with cover sheet

for qualifying televisions that includes the results of their DAM testing using the attached test protocol.

This test procedure will expire on June 28, 2010. Over the next two months, EPA will work with stakeholders to finalize a test procedure and integrate it into the ENERGY STAR Television specification. Absent an approved test protocol, hospitality televisions that use an EPG other than the ROVI EPG will not be eligible for ENERGY STAR qualification beginning on June 28, 2010.

With this letter, EPA also seeks stakeholder comment on this alternate DAM test procedure for use by hospitality televisions. Please provide comments to Owen Sanford at ICF, osanford@icfi.com, or me at kaplan.katharine@epa.gov. We would appreciate your comments no later than May 21, 2010. EPA will host a conference call on May 10, 2010 from 11-12:30 US Eastern Time to discuss this temporary test protocol. Please call into 866-299-3188, access code 202-343-9120#.

All specification updates will be posted at www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment (select 'Revisions to Existing Product Specifications' and then select 'Televisions').

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR. I look forward to working with you during the specification revision process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katharine Kaplan".

Katharine Kaplan, U.S. EPA
ENERGY STAR for Consumer Electronics