

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

June 25, 2008

Dear ENERGY STAR® TV/VCR Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

On May 5, 2008 EPA distributed a letter to stakeholders providing the Agency's proposal to suspend (i.e., discontinue) the ENERGY STAR specification for VCRs and move the DVD/VCR category to the Audio/DVD specification. Feedback on the proposal was requested by May 16, 2008. EPA wishes to thank those stakeholders who provided feedback on this proposal. In total, three responses were submitted to EPA, all of which were supportive of the proposal. As such, **EPA has decided to suspend the current VCR specification and maintain the ENERGY STAR requirements for DVD/VCR products but combine them with the Audio/DVD specification effective November 1, 2008.**

As of November 1, 2008, the main VCR page on the ENERGY STAR Web site will be removed. This includes removing all references to VCR partners and qualified VCR products. Prior to November 1, 2008, EPA will amend all TV Partners' commitment forms to reflect an expansion of their partnership to include Audio/DVD products and will move currently qualified DVD/VCR models to the Audio/DVD category. EPA asks that partners please contact EPA by September 15, 2008, if they do not wish for their partnership to be expanded as described above.

The suspension of the ENERGY STAR specification for VCRs has several important implications for EPA and stakeholders. The table below provides these key changes and their effective dates:

Key Changes	Effective Dates
EPA will no longer accept new qualifying product information from VCR partners	July 1, 2008
VCR manufacturers may no longer refer to themselves as ENERGY STAR partners for the VCR category	October 31, 2008
VCR manufacturers must discontinue use of the ENERGY STAR name and mark on product literature, product packaging, and the manufacturer's Web site (i.e., manufacturers may not apply the mark to new materials after October 31, 2008; EPA understands that existing stock produced prior to October 31, 2008 will bear the ENERGY STAR mark as it moves through the distribution channel). DVD/VCR products will be transferred to the Audio/DVD specification, and listed on the DVD products portion of the ENERGY STAR Web site	October 31, 2008
EPA will no longer maintain and/or display a VCR Web page with product and partner listings on its ENERGY STAR Web site	November 1, 2008

Please note that EPA has given manufacturers approximately four months to discontinue use of the ENERGY STAR name and mark on previously qualified VCR materials. During this transition time, EPA will continue to recognize ENERGY STAR qualified VCRs and their manufacturers at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov). However, at the end of this transition time, on October 31, 2008, manufacturers must cease using the ENERGY STAR name and mark in association with all previously qualified VCR models.

Please feel free to contact me at your convenience if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by phone at (202) 343-9120 or by e-mail at [Kaplan.katharine@epa.gov](mailto:Kaplan.katharine@epa.gov). Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Best Regards,

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

Katharine Kaplan, EPA Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR for Consumer Electronics