July 10, 2019

Dear ENERGY STAR® Data Center Storage Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder,

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking your early input specific to the revision of the ENERGY STAR Data Center Storage specification. To this end, EPA has developed a Discussion Guide that highlights an initial list of priority areas for this specification revision, key questions for stakeholders, and next steps in the revision process. EPA looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop the Version 2.0 specification that will recognize efficiency gains in the data center storage market.

This Discussion Guide focuses on the following areas:
- Simplification of the configuration structure, system ranges, and testing data requirements.
- Removal of family variation allowances and the current approach to certifying systems with multiple device types.
- Revision of requirements for internal power supplies, number of required capacity optimizing methods, and minimum efficiency requirements.
- Request for additional information on the status of the Vdbench tool and any unforeseen impacts of Emerald V4 on ENERGY STAR Version 2.0.
- Request for non-certified product data.

Stakeholder suggestions on any other issues to be considered during the Version 2.0 specification revision process are welcomed, in particular on those topics raised in the Discussion Guide.

EPA will host a webinar to engage with stakeholders on this Discussion Guide on July 24, 2019 from 1-3 PM Eastern Time. Please register here. Stakeholders are encouraged to provide written comments via email to storage@energystar.gov, no later than August 12, 2019. Specifications and meeting materials will be distributed via email and posted on the ENERGY STAR website, unless directed otherwise. To track EPA’s progress on this specification, please visit the product development website.

Please contact me at Fogle.Ryan@epa.gov or 202-343-9153 or John Clinger, ICF, at John.Clinger@icf.com or (215) 967-9407 with questions or concerns about this specification revision. For other Data Center Storage related questions, please contact storage@energystar.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,

Ryan Fogle
EPA Manager, ENERGY STAR for IT and Data Center Products

Enclosures:
Version 2.0 Discussion Guide