May 22, 2018

Dear ENERGY STAR® Computer Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder,

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is inviting early stakeholder input on the ENERGY STAR Version 8.0 Computer specification. As stakeholders may be aware, earlier this year, EPA completed the Version 7.0 specification revision, which amended the criteria for notebook and thin client computers. In Version 8.0, the Agency is considering amending the categorization system for desktop computers and amending the criteria for desktop and workstation computers. This communication requests stakeholder feedback and data that will inform the Agency’s planned Version 8.0 discussion guide and later draft criteria. EPA also invites stakeholders to join a webinar to further discuss computer categorization systems.

Assembly of Energy Data
To assist EPA in determining ENERGY STAR energy efficiency requirements, manufacturers are invited to submit product information on non-certified desktop, integrated desktop, and workstation computers using the accompanying data template posted with this letter. A robust dataset of both certified and non-certified product data will ensure that proposed levels are reflective of the overall market conditions. If you wish to contribute non-certified product data to this data assembly effort, please send completed data forms to computers@energystar.gov no later than November 16, 2018. A Draft 1, Version 8.0 specification release for computers is anticipated in Q1 2019. EPA will utilize the best dataset available to it, including the data from the Version 7.0 certified product list, to inform the proposed levels for that draft specification.

Assembly of Current Duty Cycle Data
The current duty cycle was incorporated in the Computers Version 6.0 specification based on data from a 2008 Microsoft study that included a sample set of 75,000 computers. Multiple manufacturers have shown data that indicates that the operational modes may have shifted from what was found in that 2008 study. As such, EPA is interested in evaluating the current duty cycle against data from its stakeholders to inform any potential modifications. Stakeholders interested in providing information should send this data to computers@energystar.gov no later than November 16, 2018.

Categorization Stakeholder Webinar
On March 12, 2018, EPA began discussions with stakeholders regarding potential changes to categorization systems. As indicated at that meeting, EPA will host a webinar on categorization systems to outline potential options. This webinar will take place on July 12, 2018 from 2-4 PM Eastern Time. Please register here if you plan on attending.

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. Specifications and meeting materials will be distributed via email and posted on the ENERGY STAR website. To track EPA’s progress on this specification, please visit the product development website at www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs and navigate to “Computers.”

Please contact me at Fogle.Ryan@epa.gov or 202-343-9153 or John Clinger at John.Clinger@icf.com or 215-967-9407 with questions or concerns. For any other computer related questions, please contact computers@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