# ENERGY STAR Dataset & API Revision Workflow

**About this workflow**

This diagram represents each possible process flow and its related communications. Most often changes are non-breaking. Typical changes require 1-2 announcements on the google groups forum.

**Evaluation**

ENERGY STAR Datasets & API's undergo revision in response to periodic review, user feedback and specification changes. The majority of updates to existing datasets are non-breaking data additions or improvements but breaking changes do occur.

**Announcements**

ENERGY STAR announces Dataset and API updates via the ENERGY STAR Products API Developers Group located @ https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/energystarproductsapi

Revision to dataset and API is needed (e.g., a new or revised ENERGY STAR product specification is finalized)

Does the product currently have a Socrata Dataset/API?

Yes

Metadata changes
Are changes to the labels or descriptions for an attribute/field/column

Does the version include a non-Metadata change?

Yes

**Breaking changes:**
1) Deletion of a column

2) Changing the API Name of a column

3) Non-narrowing changes to the data type of a column, e.g. Number to Plain Text

ENERGY STAR may choose to create a REPLACEMENT API without a breaking change if a business need is identified.

Does the new version include a breaking change?

Yes

Yes

Yes

No

No

No

## Development Phase

1 month prior to release

### What to Expect:

**Detailed Change Announcement**

This is the first announcement of the retirement on the old API the creation of the REPLACEMENT API.

**4x4 / Dataset Information**

At this point columns, names and descriptions will be available and included in communications whenever possible but they may change in the REPLACEMENT API. REPLACEMENT API data should be considered FOR TESTING PURPOSES ONLY!

4x4's will be included in all communications.

**Changelog Updates and Location**

Communications will indicate that the datasets are subject to change and should be provided a mechanism to see these changes (link to a changelog)

Announce the upcoming retirement of a **OLD VERSION** of the API

Announce the upcoming creation of a **REPLACEMENT VERSION** of the API

CREATE **REPLACEMENT** Dataset/API and Add Columns and Metadata (labels & descriptions) to API

**A REPLACEMENT API** is a **NEW API** created to replace an existing API

Announce the upcoming retirement of a **OLD VERSION** of the API

Announce release of **REPLACEMENT** API (for development purposes ONLY)

## Pre-release Phase

0-2 weeks prior to release

### What to Expect:

**Final Prerelease Announcement**

This is the first announcement of the NEW/REVISED API and the second announcement of the REPLACEMENT API.

**4x4 / Dataset Information**

At this point columns, names and descriptions will no longer change. New data should be considered FOR TESTING PURPOSES ONLY!

For NEW/REPLACEMENT APIs communications will include the new 4x4. REPLACEMENT APIs will also include a new human readable path.

Communications will indicate what has changed from last announcement.

CREATE **NEW** Dataset/API and Add Columns and Metadata (labels & descriptions) to API

Add Columns and Metadata (labels & descriptions) to **REVISED** Dataset/API

Update/add/remove Columns and Metadata (labels & descriptions) for the **REPLACEMENT** API

Announce release of **NEW** API (for development purposes ONLY)

Announce release of **REVISED API** (for development purposes ONLY new columns may be revised)

Announce the retirement date and time for the **OLD VERSION** API

Announce final release date and time of **REPLACEMENT VERSION** of the API (provide go-live date)

Update/add/remove Columns and Metadata (labels & descriptions) for the **NEW** API

Update/add/remove the NEW Columns and Metadata (labels & descriptions) for the **REVISED** API [existing columns will not be changed]

Announce final release of the **NEW VERSION** of the API (provide go-live date)

Announce final release of the **REVISED VERSION** of the **API** (provide go-live date)

## Release Phase

Day of release

### What to Expect:

**Final Announcement**

This is the final announcement of the NEW/REVISED/ REPLACEMENT API and the only announcement for changes that solely effect metadata.

**4x4 / Dataset Information**

At this point columns, names and descriptions will no longer change. New data is READY FOR USE!

The human readable path will be changed for REPLACEMENT APIs and will be included in communications. The OLD API version will no longer be available.

For NEW/REPLACEMENT APIs communications will include the new 4x4.

Update Socrata human readable URL and API metadata

Announce release of the **REVISED VERSION** of the API

Update Socrata human readable URL and product metadata to point to the **REPLACEMENT** API

Change Column Metadata

Examples: a change that makes new/current column data incomparable to existing or past data in the column; changing column calculations, use or purpose

Remove **OLD** API

Does the Metadata change alter meaning of the column in a significant way?

Yes

No

Announce release of the **NEW VERSION** of the API

Announce the retirement of the **OLD VERSION** of the **API**

Announce release of the **REPLACEMENT VERSION** of the API

Announce Metadata Changes

Done