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



OFFICE OF AIR AND
RADIATION

December 2, 2021

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

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is sharing proposed changes to the Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Data Center Storage Specification, which expands the marketing requirements for data center storage products. EPA welcomes stakeholder input on this proposal, which will be reflected in a [Version 2.1 specification](#) once final. These proposed changes will apply to products certified after Version 2.1 is finalized. While currently certified products will not need to be retested to maintain their ENERGY STAR certification, EPA strongly encourages partners to make this information available for currently certified products as soon as possible.

EPA has engaged with stakeholders since the release of the Version 2.0 Data Center Storage specification regarding the verification procedures for this uniquely complicated product type. Recognizing that operators have access to real-time power and temperature data from each product via Data Center Information Management (DCIM) software, this allows them to manage IT hardware and observe when individual units fall outside of expected operating parameters. EPA has concluded that the presence of this DCIM software combined with certification data provides a high level of transparency regarding performance. EPA has also learned that there would be benefit in providing customers with additional information on ENERGY STAR products. In many cases, key efficiency information is missing from brand owner websites or not provided to customers. As such, EPA will require that product websites clearly indicate those elements of the product family that are ENERGY STAR certified, what COMs are made available for the product, and the minimum power supply that is provided with the product. EPA believes these pieces of information will allow stakeholders to provide more transparency to their customers. Discussions with stakeholders and a review of the market affirm that no other changes to this specification are warranted at this time. This requirement is noted in Section 3.5.8 excerpted below.

3.5.8 Report the web link to the following product information made clearly visible on partner primary marketing and/or product summary websites:

- i. Identification of configurations within a model line that are included in the ENERGY STAR certified product family;
- ii. COMs available for the product;
- iii. Minimum power supply efficiency offered within the product family (preferably as an 80 Plus equivalent statement).

Stakeholders may submit any comments on this Version 2.1 specification to storage@energystar.gov by December 16, 2021. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development website unless the submitter requests otherwise.

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 [data center storage 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. For any 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

For more information, visit: www.energystar.gov

This message was sent to you on behalf of ENERGY STAR. Each ENERGY STAR partner organization must have at least one primary contact receiving e-mail to maintain partnership. If you are no longer working on ENERGY STAR, and wish to be removed as a contact, please inactivate your contact role status in your [MESA](#) account. If you are not a partner organization and wish to opt out of receiving e-mails, please contact EnergyStarProducts@energystar.gov.