**Purchasing ENERGY STAR EV Chargers**

ENERGY STAR is widely recognized as the trusted symbol for energy efficiency. Products that earn the label are independently certified to meet strict specifications set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). ENERGY STAR certified EV Chargers reduce energy waste in several modes of operation: where the vehicle is not present (No Vehicle Mode) and where the vehicle is connected but is not providing energy (Partial On Mode and Idle Mode). These three modes encompass the time when the EV Charger is not actively charging a vehicle. For Level 1 EVSE, the model is in one of these three modes for about 85% of the lifetime of the product and for Level 2 EV Chargers, the model is in one of these three modes for an even greater amount of time[[1]](#footnote-1).

ENERGY STAR certification differentiates for purchasers which models save energy and money over the lifetime of the product. Once they are fully integrated into the market, savings from ENERGY STAR certified EV Chargers will grow to more than $17 million each year and more than 280 million pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from more than 26,000 vehicles

Some ENERGY STAR EV Charger models also meet optional criteria for connected functionality. The models with this feature will be capable of supporting Demand Response (e.g., via software updates or integration with external service) through open communication protocols, providing opportunities such as load dispatch, ancillary services, price notification, and price response for utilities, and potentially additional monetary savings for purchasers.

Purchasing ENERGY STAR certified products reduces energy costs without compromising performance. Take the steps outlined below to learn more about ENERGY STAR certified EV Charger products and specify them in your purchasing policies and contracts.

**Step 1: Modify your Procurement Language**

The following single clause in a contract is all that is needed:

The Vendor Must:

Provide EV Charger products that are ENERGY STAR certified to save energy. Purchaser may request from vendor a printout or link to EPA’s EV Charger certified product list as evidence of compliance with this requirement. See: list of certified products.

The **ENERGY STAR Product Finder** will help you develop a list of certified products for your specific needs. Follow these steps to determine what ENERGY STAR certified products are available:   
  
**How to Use the ENERGY STAR Product Finder:**

1. Visit the [ENERGY STAR Product Finder](https://www.energystar.gov/productfinder/).
2. Select Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment.
3. Review the results and if needed, filter your results further by “Type,” “Brand Name,” and other defining features.

**Optional**: Compare up to four different products.

1. Make informed recommendations on ENERGY STAR certified products.

***Industry Tip:* ENERGY STAR Product Finder**  
The ENERGY STAR Product Finder is an online searchable database of all ENERGY STAR certified products, including EV Charger products. Did you know the ENERGY STAR Product Finder is updated every day with information from EPA-recognized Certification Bodies?

**Step 2: Educate your Vendors and Personnel**

Organizations have a wide range of purchasing options. Therefore, organizations should educate purchasing agents, upper management, and key stakeholders about their ENERGY STAR purchasing requirements, savings benefits, and available mechanisms for making these purchases. The below letter explains why your organization has decided to implement an energy-efficient purchasing program, what the benefits are, and how your employees should implement the plan. Send this letter to communicate purchasing requirements to appropriate colleagues. This letter can be modified as needed.

**TO:**

**FROM:** *{Green Purchasing Lead in Organization}*

**DATE:**

**RE:** *{Organization Name}* to Only Purchase ENERGY STARElectric Vehicle Chargers

**We are pleased to announce that as part of our continuing efforts to save energy, money and help protect the environment, *{Organization Name}* is committed to purchasing only ENERGY STAR certified Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargers*.\**** EV Chargers that have earned the ENERGY STAR on average use 40% less energy than a standard EV Charger when the charger is in standby mode (i.e., not actively charging a vehicle). EV Chargers are typically in a standby mode for about 85% of the lifetime of the product.

Please employ the following guidance:

* When purchasing EV Chargers please:
  + Visit the [ENERGY STAR Product Finder](https://www.energystar.gov/productfinder/) and select Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment for a list of ENERGY STAR qualified products.
  + Look for the ENERGY STAR certification mark in product descriptions, product boxes, online catalogs, etc.
* When setting up a *{services contract or purchasing agreement},* please include the following language:

**The Vendor must provide EV Chargers that have earned ENERGY STAR for energy efficiency. The vendor is encouraged to visit energystar.gov/products for complete product specifications and updated lists of qualifying products.**

\* *{Mention any conditions where purchasing ENERGY STAR products is not required.}*

1. Idaho National Laboratory (INL), EV Project Infrastructure Report, December 2013, <https://avt.inl.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/EVProj/EVProject%20Infrastructure%20ReportJan13Dec13.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)