

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

June 24, 2011

Dear ENERGY STAR® Audio/Video Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the following Draft 1 Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Audio/Video specification. The Version 3.0 requirements, once final, will replace the Version 2.0 Tier 3 requirements initially scheduled to go into effect March 30, 2012. The goals of this revision are to (1) establish performance requirements noted as “TBD” during development of the Version 2.0 Tier 3 product specification, (2) assess existing product performance criteria and modify as needed to ensure that ENERGY STAR continues to represent the top performing products in the market, and (3) address changes in program scope necessary to maintain broad applicability of the AV specification to the market. EPA aims to finalize Version 3.0 in October 2011, and this specification would take effect in July 2012.

The Draft 1 Version 3.0 specification includes the following key elements:

- **On Mode Requirements:** EPA is proposing a reduction in the On Mode power allowance for Blu-Ray DVD players from the current limit of 17 watts to 10.5 watts. An analysis of EPA’s current data set supports a good selection of products from a range of manufacturers that would be available and cost effective at this level. Given the comparatively low market share of ENERGY STAR qualified standard DVD players and their overall decline in the market, EPA is proposing to retain existing requirements for these products. EPA is currently assembling information on non-ENERGY STAR qualified amplifiers and will propose new amplifier efficiency requirements in Draft 2 of this specification.
- **Clarifications:** EPA has made clarifications and minor revisions to the specification and the test procedure to improve their clarity. These revisions are based on feedback received from labs, manufacturers and other stakeholders since the specification was released on November 16, 2009.
- **Delivering Consumer Value:** In the interest of offering features that consumers value, EPA would like to ensure that the ENERGY STAR label is associated only with those products that meet minimum expectations for materials toxicity, recyclability and recycled content where existing standards can be referenced. EPA is proposing that ENERGY STAR qualified Audio/Video products be free of certain toxic materials, including lead and mercury. EPA seeks additional feedback from stakeholders on whether any existing standards that address recycled content in and/or design for recyclability of products could apply to Audio/Video products.

Stakeholders are requested to provide comments on the Draft 1 specification no later than July 27, 2011. Please send comments via e-mail to Owen Sanford, ICF International, osanford@icfi.com or to audiovideo@energystar.gov. All comments received will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site, unless the submitter specifically requests that his or her comments remain confidential.

Audio/Video Stakeholder Meeting to Discuss Draft 1

On July 19, 2011 from 2pm–4 pm, Eastern Time, EPA will host a stakeholder webinar to present details on the revisions made in the Draft 1 Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR specification and the data analysis performed to date, as well as address stakeholder questions and concerns regarding the proposed changes. If you wish to attend this meeting, please RSVP to audiovideo@energystar.gov no later than July 15, 2011 with the subject line “RSVP – ES A/V July 19 Meeting.”

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. To track EPA’s progress in revising the ENERGY STAR Audio Video products specification and to review comments, please visit the Product Development Web site at www.energystar.gov/RevisedSpecs and click on “Audio/Video.”

Thank you for taking the time to review this Draft specification. Please contact Verena Radulovic, EPA, at Radulovic.verena@epa.gov or (202) 343-9845 or Owen Sanford, ICF International, at osanford@icfi.com or (202) 862-1141, with any questions or concerns.

Best Regards,



Verena Radulovic, U.S. EPA
ENERGY STAR for Consumer Electronics

Enclosures:

Draft 1 Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Audio/Video Products Specification
Draft ENERGY STAR Audio/Video Products Test Method
Chart Showing Proposed Draft 1 Energy Efficiency Requirements