

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

November 23, 2010

Dear ENERGY STAR® Televisions Stakeholder or Other Interested Party:

The following memo outlines two proposed modifications to the ENERGY STAR Televisions program and provides clarification on the test procedure for DAM. EPA will host a conference call to discuss these issues on **December 1st 2010** and welcomes written comments on the following topics as well. Comments may be submitted via email to televisions@energystar.gov no later than **December 15, 2010**.

Version 5 Effective Date

For the past several months, EPA has been closely monitoring market adoption of the recent Version 4 ENERGY STAR Televisions specification. In response to rapid growth in the number of qualified products and various stakeholder requests for an accelerated implementation of the proposed Version 5 requirements, EPA is proposing a change to the effective date for Version 5 to **July 1, 2011**. This proposed date is intended to align with manufacturing production cycles. EPA, along with some consumer electronics retailers and energy efficiency program sponsors, believes that moving up the effective date for these new requirements is necessary to maintain the ENERGY STAR's relevance in today's market.

Industry sources have estimated that 60 to 90 percent of televisions sold today meet current ENERGY STAR requirements. In support of this claim, a major consumer electronics retailer has noted that more than 70 percent of their current US retail television sales are ENERGY STAR qualified.

A wide variety of televisions of all available screen sizes exceed Version 4 ENERGY STAR On Mode power requirements by a substantial margin. Of the total population of products on the ENERGY STAR Qualified Product List, a full 26 percent can meet the Version 5 requirements originally intended to take effect in May 2012. Further, EPA received data noting that more than 19 percent of current television retail sales from a major consumer electronics retailer are of models that meet Version 5 requirements. For these reasons, EPA does not see a need to reevaluate the Version 5 performance levels.

With the majority of the market meeting the current Version 4 requirements and more than 25 percent meeting the Version 5 requirements, EPA also plans to launch the specification development process for Version 6 early in 2011.

Power Overhang

A definition for Power Overhang was added to the Version 4.2 specification in response to stakeholder questions about whether time spent in a high power operating state after the user has turned off the television should be considered part of DAM. EPA has developed a proposed time limit for this mode and would like to work with stakeholders to refine and include it in the Version 5.3 specification. For your convenience, EPA's Power Overhang definition, proposed time limits and the feedback the Agency received are attached.

Download Acquisition Mode (DAM) Testing

The Version 4.2 ENERGY STAR Televisions specification, scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2011, requires use of the "CEA: Procedure for DAM Testing" to determine energy consumption in Download Acquisition Mode (DAM) for all televisions. With this letter, EPA is encouraging the use of the CEA DAM procedure for testing DAM, effective immediately.

The CEA procedure was originally developed to test hospitality televisions. The final CEA procedure has been edited from its draft form to include comments and suggestions proposed by EPA as well as stakeholder feedback and now applies to all televisions. The final test procedure allows partners to test download acquisition mode using a custom test stream that effectively measures all relevant DAM functions. All unique DAM functions must be reported in a data declaration table found at the end of the test procedure. This test procedure is intended to allow greater flexibility to partners regarding forthcoming download needs while still accounting for their energy performance. This test procedure is attached (or is available [here](#)).

Next Steps

EPA welcomes your comments on the proposal to move up the Version 5 effective date and set a time limit for Power Overhang. Please send feedback to televisions@energystar.gov no later than **December 15, 2010**. EPA will also host a conference call on December 1, 2010 to discuss this proposal with stakeholders.

Conference Call Details:

Date: December 1, 2010

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Number: 1-877-423-6338

Passcode: 424891

Please RSVP to televisions@energystar.gov

Following consideration of stakeholder comments, EPA intends to release a Final Draft Version 5.3 specification for stakeholder review in mid-December, 2010. This Final Draft will include the current Version 5 energy performance requirements, clarification regarding Power Overhang, as noted above, and the modest changes made to Version 4.2 to facilitate smooth implementation of third party testing.

EPA appreciates your partnership and support of the ENERGY STAR program. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9120 or kaplan.katharine@epa.gov.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katharine Kaplan".

Katharine Kaplan
ENERGY STAR for Consumer Electronics

Attachments: Power Overhang Summary
CEA DAM Test Procedure