

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

November 17, 2009

Dear ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Set-top Box Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is launching the revision of the Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Set-top Box (STB) specification in order to complete the development of Tier 2 program requirements, including: (1) confirming the appropriateness of current requirements; (2) determining power allowances for features like DOCSIS not previously included in the specification; and (3) evaluating the addition of new product types to the scope of the program. The purpose of this letter is to invite your participation in the ENERGY STAR STB specification revision process.

**ENERGY STAR for STB Background**

The Tier 1 Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR STB specification became effective on January 1, 2009. As of today, there are 35 qualified STB products available worldwide from five manufacturing partners. At the time the Version 2.0 specification was completed, EPA and stakeholders drafted the majority of prospective Tier 2 requirements scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2011. This specification revision will fulfill EPA's plan to revisit Tier 2 limits and finalize any "to be determined" elements in advance of the Tier 2 effective date.

Given developments in the STB market and conversations with stakeholders since the Tier 1 specification was finalized, EPA has identified additional opportunities to expand the scope of the STB program to achieve additional efficiency gains and would like to work with stakeholders to further evaluate these opportunities and expand the scope of the specification, as appropriate.

**Next Steps for Set-top Box Product Manufacturers and Service Providers**

Over the next few months, EPA will engage with product manufacturers, service providers, and other interested parties to complete revisions to the Tier 2 STB requirements. Specific to addition of possible new products, EPA envisions working with stakeholders to: (1) identify and define the types of equipment to be added; (2) determine an appropriate means of testing the energy consumption of these products; and (3) propose new product definitions and efficiency levels in a series of draft documents for stakeholder review and comment.

EPA anticipates completing revisions to STB requirements early in 2010, to be followed by discussion of revised requirements for ENERGY STAR Service Providers for 2011 and beyond.

**EPA invites stakeholders to a conference call scheduled for Thursday, December 3, 2009 from 1 PM to 3 PM U.S. EST to discuss Tier 2 for STBs.** Meeting materials will be distributed via email and posted to the ENERGY STAR Web site prior to the call.

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA and stakeholders is critical to our success. We hope you will actively participate in the ENERGY STAR specification development process. If you know of others who may be interested in participating in the specification development process, please forward this announcement and encourage them to send their contact information to [STBs@energystar.gov](mailto:STBs@energystar.gov) to be added to the stakeholder contact list.

Please direct any specific questions to Kathleen Vokes, EPA, at [yokes.kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:yokes.kathleen@epa.gov) or 202-343-9019 or Stephen Pantano, ICF International, at [spantano@icfi.com](mailto:spantano@icfi.com) or 202-862-1551.

We look forward to working with you and thank you for your interest in ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Vokes", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathleen Vokes  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
ENERGY STAR for Set-top Boxes