

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

December 22, 2006

Dear ENERGY STAR® Traffic Signal Partners and Other Interested Parties:

In October 2006, I distributed a letter to stakeholders providing EPA's proposal to suspend (i.e., discontinue) the ENERGY STAR specification for traffic signals and soliciting feedback on this proposal by November 13, 2006. After reviewing all comments received, **EPA has decided to suspend the current traffic signal specification effective on May 1, 2007.**

EPA wishes to thank those stakeholders who provided feedback on its proposal. In total, four responses were submitted to EPA for review and consideration. While two commenters encouraged EPA to maintain the specification, no information was provided supporting the feasibility of a more stringent ENERGY STAR specification at this time. Without sufficient product differentiation to justify both mandatory standards and voluntary high-efficiency specifications, EPA has decided to go forward with the suspension of the ENERGY STAR specification for traffic signals. However, as LED and other energy-efficient technologies evolve, improve, and mature, if there is an opportunity for ENERGY STAR to play a role in the traffic signal marketplace, then EPA may consider a revised specification at that time.

Two organizations inquired whether information will remain on the ENERGY STAR Web site, given that the Energy Policy Act specifically refers to the ENERGY STAR specification. As of May 1, 2007, the main traffic signals page on the ENERGY STAR Web site will be removed, including partner and product lists, and qualifying product information forms. The Web site will continue to include the ENERGY STAR Eligibility Criteria and testing procedures, which are cited in the Department of Energy's rules, as a link from the main products page (www.energystar.gov/products). In addition, EPA will continue to include general information (e.g., sample procurement language and savings calculators) on its Web site regarding energy-efficient traffic signals for use by procurement officials and others.

The suspension of the ENERGY STAR specification for traffic signals has several important implications for EPA and stakeholders. The table below provides these key changes and their effective dates:

Key Changes:	Effective Dates:
EPA will no longer accept new Partnership Agreements for traffic signals	December 22 2006
EPA will no longer accept new qualifying product information from traffic signal partners	December 22, 2006
Traffic signal manufacturers may no longer refer to themselves as ENERGY STAR partners	April 30, 2007
Traffic signal manufacturers must discontinue use of the ENERGY STAR name and mark on product literature, product packaging, and the manufacturer's Web site (i.e., manufacturers may not apply the mark to new materials after April 30, 2007; EPA understands that existing stock produced prior to April 30 will bear the ENERGY STAR mark as it filters through the distribution channel)	April 30, 2007
EPA will no longer maintain and/or display a traffic signal Web page with partner and product listings on its ENERGY STAR Web site	May 1, 2007

Please note that EPA has given manufacturers approximately four months to discontinue use of the ENERGY STAR name and mark on any previously qualified traffic signal materials. During this transition time, EPA will continue to recognize ENERGY STAR qualified traffic signals and their manufacturers on www.energystar.gov. However, at the end of this transition time, on April 30, 2007, manufacturers must cease using the ENERGY STAR name and mark in association with all previously qualified traffic signal models.

Please feel free to contact me at your convenience if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by phone at (202) 343-9124 or by email at schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in and support of ENERGY STAR over the years. You have been an important part of ENERGY STAR's success and I look forward to working together again in the future.

Regards,



Rachel Schmeltz
ENERGY STAR Program Manager