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



OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

November 20, 2023

Dear ENERGY STAR® Computers Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder,

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing the [Draft 1, Version 9.0 ENERGY STAR Computer specification](#).

EPA released a Discussion Guide for stakeholder review and comment focused on the ENERGY STAR categorization systems, mode weightings, internal power supplies, and possible scope amendments. EPA is now releasing a Draft 1 specification and test method that considers this early feedback. Note boxes throughout the specification provide EPA's rationale for proposals. Also attached to this distribution is a [data package](#) that includes the EPA dataset, Draft 1 proposed levels, and savings estimates. The Draft 1, Version 9.0 specification incorporates the following key elements:

*Energy Criteria:*

EPA is proposing to amend the criteria and program structure for desktop computers, notebook computers, and integrated desktops, greatly simplifying the base allowance structure. In reviewing the dataset, the Agency identified that performance is no longer a notable differentiator in whether products can achieve efficient low power operation when in idle / sleep. EPA is, therefore, applying the same base allowance within each of the three primary categories. EPA has also adjusted the adder structure, folding some adders that were commonly used into the base allowance.

EPA has not made changes to workstations at this time, but requests feedback on the efforts industry has undertaken to identify the best modern active mode workstation benchmark and its readiness for EPA to adopt for Draft 2.

*Power Supply Criteria:*

After consideration of data received, EPA is proposing to increase the power supply criteria from 80Plus Bronze to 80Plus Silver for those products with power supplies under 500W. EPA found in the dataset that there are ample products available at the 80Plus Silver level under 500W. In contrast, EPA did not find enough product availability at or above 500W to adjust the power supply criteria for those products. Thus, EPA proposes to maintain the 80Plus Gold criteria for products at or above 500W.

Comment Submittal

EPA welcomes stakeholder input on the attached Draft 1, Version 9.0 specification. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit any comments to [computers@energystar.gov](mailto:computers@energystar.gov) by January 11, 2024. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development website unless the submitter requests otherwise.

Stakeholder Webinar

EPA will host a webinar to answer any questions on this discussion guide on **November 30, 2023 from 1-3 PM**

**Eastern Time.** Please register [here](#) if you plan on attending.

The exchange of ideas and information between EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. Specifications and meeting materials will be distributed via email and posted on the ENERGY STAR website. To track EPA's progress on this specification, please visit the product development website [here](#).

Please contact me at [Fogle.Ryan@epa.gov](mailto:Fogle.Ryan@epa.gov) or 202-343-9153 or John Clinger at [John.Clinger@icf.com](mailto:John.Clinger@icf.com) or 215-967-9407 with questions or concerns. For any other computer related questions, please contact [computers@energystar.gov](mailto:computers@energystar.gov). Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,



Ryan Fogle  
EPA Manager, ENERGY STAR for IT and Data Center Products  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Enclosures:

[Draft 1, Version 9.0 Specification](#)

[Data and Analysis Package](#)

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