



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

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

September 10, 2013

Dear ENERGY STAR® Computers Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to provide you with the final Version 6.0 ENERGY STAR Computers Specification. EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who have invested time and effort in this revision. Version 6.0 requirements will become effective on June 2, 2014. This letter provides highlights of the new requirements and outlines the transition process.

Computers qualifying for ENERGY STAR under the Version 6.0 specification will offer savings of more than 30% percent over a conventional model. The new requirements establish challenging power consumption levels for notebooks, desktops, and other computer types, while accommodating the high-performance functionality that consumers demand. If all computers sold in the United States were ENERGY STAR certified, the cost savings would grow to nearly \$1.3 billion each year and more than 18 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from over 1.7 million vehicles.

In addition to recognizing improved efficiency across all eligible product types, this specification updates the long-standing ENERGY STAR program for computers in several important ways, in light of the evolution of computing products, including:

- Incorporating short idle state testing and workstation benchmark testing, which provide a better assessment of typical energy consumption;
- Revising the category system, and treatment of integrated displays and graphics for notebooks, desktops, integrated desktops, and thin clients to better reflect the characteristics that influence energy consumption; and
- Adding new incentives for energy-saving features such as Energy Efficient Ethernet, network proxying, and power supplies that retain high efficiency at low load.

EPA received limited comments in response to the Final Draft, which resulted in some modest edits to the final specification, including clarifying the definition for an integral keyboard, allowing alternative low-power modes to be treated similarly to sleep mode if their power is less than or equal to 10 watts, and clarifying the inclusion of point-of-sale systems. Summaries of the stakeholder comments and agency responses are presented in the attached Comment Response document.

**Timeline and Next Steps:**

EPA shares partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification to the next, so that consumers can expect ENERGY STAR labeled products to fully meet the latest requirements upon their effective date. With this in mind, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective today, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 6.0 requirements.
- As of January 15, 2014, CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to Version 5.2. Note, however, that existing certifications will remain valid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until June 1, 2014.
- Any computer products manufactured as of June 2, 2013, must meet Version 6.0 requirements to bear the ENERGY STAR mark. All certifications of products to the Version 5.2 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification and CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 6.0 to EPA.

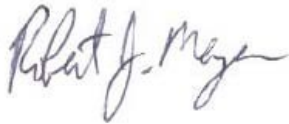
In the period between the Version 6.0 finalization and effective date, EPA will work with stakeholders to evaluate inclusion of portable computers with detachable keyboards or with no keyboards at all (Slates/Tablets) in the computer specification. These products are excluded from the scope of Version 6.0, but EPA's goal is to develop acceptable definitions to allow them to be included in a Version 6.1 specification. EPA will be sending additional information to stakeholders shortly and looks forward to beginning discussions in October 2013.

Please note that ENERGY STAR partnership as a manufacturer is limited to organizations that own and/or license a brand name under which they sell eligible products in the United States and/or Canada. Partnership is not available to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that do not sell directly to consumers or end users. OEMs may certify products on behalf of the ENERGY STAR brand owners/licensees; however the brand owner must be the ENERGY STAR partner associated directly with the certified product models, since only partners are authorized to use the ENERGY STAR certification mark.

EPA looks forward to working with you as you qualify and market your energy-efficient computers. If you have any questions or concerns about the specification or partnership process, please feel free to contact me at [Meyers.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Meyers.Robert@epa.gov), or 202-343-9923, or Matt Malinowski at ICF International at [Matt.Malinowski@icfi.com](mailto:Matt.Malinowski@icfi.com) or 202-862-2693. For any questions related to the test method, please contact Bryan Berringer, DOE, at [Bryan.Berringer@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Bryan.Berringer@ee.doe.gov), or 202-586-0371.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert J. Meyers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'R' and 'M'.

Robert Meyers  
Product Manager, ENERGY STAR Computers