

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



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

February 16, 2018

Dear ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Computers Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the final Version 7.0 ENERGY STAR Computer Specification. EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who have invested time and effort to contribute feedback that has informed this product specification process. These Version 7.0 requirements will take effect on November 16, 2018. This letter provides highlights of the new requirements and outlines the transition process.

The Version 7.0 specification will recognize the top performing computer products on the market. ENERGY STAR certified computers will use, on average, approximately 25% less energy than standard notebook computers. If all computers sold in the United States were ENERGY STAR certified, the cost savings would grow to nearly \$600 million each year and more than 8 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from over 800 thousand vehicles.

EPA received comments on the final draft specification related to the p-score, the as shipped brightness, base TEC levels, and effective date. The p-score boundary was corrected in the Final specification so that a product with a p-score of 8 would be eligible for certification under the NB2 requirements. In addition, EPA amended the as-shipped requirements to their original wording as the amended language might cause undue confusion in the market. The modest adjustments to the base allowances proposed in the November 14, 2017 memo are retained. EPA also received a request with accompanying data to ease these base allowances further. EPA analyzed this data carefully and arranged additional meetings to discuss the request with stakeholders. Ultimately, this data did not support the need for more lenient levels. Finally, the effective date has been retained. Analysis of currently certified products demonstrates that manufacturers have a broad mix of products that can meet the Version 7.0 requirements today. Further, the November effective date enables EPA to begin to gather the data needed to work with partners on Version 8.0 so that it takes effect before upcoming California Energy Commission regulatory deadlines.

#### **Version 7.0 Transition Timeline and Next Steps**

EPA shares partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification version to the next so that consumer expectations are met and ENERGY STAR labeled products fully meet the new requirements upon their effective date. With this in mind, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify eligible products to the Version 7.0 requirements.
- After July 2, 2018, CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to Version 6.1. Note, however, that existing certifications to V6.1 will remain valid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR certification until November 16, 2018.
- Any Computer manufactured as of November 16, 2018, must meet the Version 7.0 requirements to bear the ENERGY STAR mark. All certifications of products to the Version 6.1 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR and CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 7.0 to EPA.

On behalf of EPA, I would like to thank all stakeholders who provided feedback during this specification revisions process and I look forward to working with you as you certify and market your ENERGY STAR

certified computers. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Fogle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ryan" and last name "Fogle" clearly distinguishable.

Ryan Fogle  
EPA Manager, ENERGY STAR for IT and Data Center Products