

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

August 12, 2004

Dear Power Supply Manufacturer, ENERGY STAR[®] Partner or Other Interested Party:

EPA welcomes your input on the **Draft 3** ENERGY STAR specification for single voltage external ac-dc and ac-ac power supplies. This document outlines the criteria that manufacturers' models will need to meet to qualify for ENERGY STAR. All manufacturers and other interested parties are encouraged to review the draft specification and provide comments by **September 10, 2004**.

A number of stakeholders provided comments for EPA's consideration in developing the Draft 3 specification. Where agreed to by the author, written comments submitted to EPA on the first two drafts of the specification will be posted on the ENERGY STAR Web site at www.energystar.gov/powersupplies.

The latest draft of the specification incorporates the following major additions and revisions:

- Ac-Ac models have been added to the list of eligible products in Draft 3 of the external power supply specification. They may qualify as ENERGY STAR if they meet the same Active and No-Load performance levels as ac-dc models. As external power supplies, ac-ac units have functional similarities to ac-dc units and are found in some of the same high-volume products, such as cordless phones.
- The Tier 1 Active Mode specification has been modified in Draft 3 to require slightly less stringent minimum average efficiencies. The proposed specification represents the top 34.7% of models in Active Mode in EPA's data set.
- The Tier 1 effective date has been delayed by one month to November 1, 2004.
- While subject to change based on analysis of new data, EPA believes that 0.3 watts (nameplate output power less than 10 watts) and 0.5 watts (nameplate output power from 10 to 250 watts) represent reasonable Tier 2 targets for manufacturers. The Tier 2 effective date has been moved up by approximately six months to July 1, 2006.
- Consistent with ENERGY STAR's Guiding Principles, Section 4.A, Safety Standards, has been added to the Draft 3 specification to help ensure that product quality and safety are never compromised for energy efficiency.

and

- Finally, with Draft 3, EPA has provided some specific stakeholder feedback on the external power supply definition in order to solicit additional viewpoints. We strongly encourage all stakeholders to take the time to submit their comments on these issues along with any other input on the Draft 3 performance levels, effective date, and other requirements.

The complete rationale behind EPA's decision to incorporate these changes can be found within the note boxes provided in the Draft 3 specification.

Also enclosed are the ENERGY STAR Partner Commitments and an Appendix with examples of the correct usage of the ENERGY STAR mark. The Partner Commitments document provides the basic partnership requirements, which are consistent across the more than 40 product areas covered by ENERGY STAR. We are providing them in anticipation of your potential interest in joining ENERGY STAR for External Power Supplies. EPA currently does not have plans to modify the Partner Commitments and has provided them for informational purposes only. Once the specification is completed, instructions for joining ENERGY STAR will be provided to interested stakeholders.

EPA hopes to announce the new specification and present the requirements or rules for participation, with the China Certification Center for Energy Conservation Products (CECP), at the 10th China International Power Supply Exhibition (PowerChina 2004) in Beijing, China, September 27-29, 2004. For more information on PowerChina 2004, please contact Mr. Li Zhan Shi or Ms. Li Xin at cpss@powersupply.net.cn.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to review Draft 3 of the ENERGY STAR specification for single voltage external ac-dc and ac-ac power supplies. Please send any comments to Brooke Taylor, ICF Consulting, at btaylor@icfconsulting.com by September 10, 2004. Comments received by this date will be considered for the Final Specification.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at (202) 343-9019 or fanara.andrew@epa.gov. Thanks again for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Fanara', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrew Fanara
ENERGY STAR Product Development

Enclosures:

Draft 3 ENERGY STAR Specification for Single Voltage External Ac-Dc and Ac-Ac Power Supplies (with accompanying flowchart)

ENERGY STAR Partner Commitments for External Power Supplies

Appendix: Labeling Examples