



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

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

August 4, 2011

Dear Game Console Stakeholder:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is distributing, for your review and comment, proposed performance criteria for energy efficient game consoles. Significant opportunity exists for these products to deliver meaningful savings to consumers and the environment if efficiency were made a priority. We invite stakeholders to engage with the Agency on these proposed criteria for game consoles, as well as potential approaches to encouraging their adoption.

History of EPA Efforts on Game Console Efficiency

Over the last few years, EPA, Game Console manufacturers, and numerous other stakeholders have worked together to identify opportunities to reduce the energy use of game consoles. Game Console requirements were first included in the ENERGY STAR computer specification in 2008. Efforts to revise these requirements in 2009 did not reach closure due to a number of competing efficiency efforts globally. With some global progress on efficiency and testing parameters for game consoles, EPA is now interested in re-engaging with stakeholders about criteria for game consoles.

Stimulating Improvements in Game Console Efficiency

Rather than using the ENERGY STAR label to differentiate high efficiency game console models (since there are only three), EPA is considering an alternative that involves Agency recognition of manufacturers who commit to adopting the finalized efficiency criteria for their systems. EPA looks forward to collaborating with stakeholders to determine the potential recognition elements of greatest value, so as to prompt widespread efficiency improvements.

Energy Efficiency Criteria

EPA welcomes your comment on the attached proposed performance requirements and test method. The proposed requirements build on past efforts by stakeholders and the EPA to develop requirements specialized for the game console market and include:

- Auto-power down to a sleep mode within 1 hour of user inactivity;
- Display sleep mode shall be set to activate after no more than 15 minutes of inactivity;
- Internal power supplies and external power supplies must meet minimum efficiency requirements; and
- Meet sleep, system idle, and media energy efficiency requirements (levels to be proposed in a subsequent draft).

The Department of Energy (DOE) will be supporting EPA in this effort, leading the development of the test method.

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide written comments on the proposed performance requirements and test method via email to [gameconsoles@icfi.com](mailto:gameconsoles@icfi.com) **no later than September 16, 2011**. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Game Console website unless the submitter requests otherwise.

**Stakeholder Webinar Meeting to Proposed Performance Requirements and Test Method**

EPA invites you to participate in a webinar on August 9, 2011, from 1-3PM Eastern, to discuss the proposed Game Console performance requirements and test method and what might be involved in potential EPA recognition for companies that commit to meeting these requirements. To RSVP, please email [gameconsoles@icfi.com](mailto:gameconsoles@icfi.com).

## Schedule

The anticipated schedule for the development of the Game Console performance requirements and test method is as follows:

<b>Thursday August 4, 2011</b>	Distribution of Proposed Game Console Performance Requirements and Test Method
<b>Tuesday, August 9, 2011</b>	Webinar Meeting on Proposed Game Console Performance Requirements and Test Method
<b>Friday, September 16, 2011</b>	Stakeholder Comment Period closes
<b>Early October</b>	Revised Proposed Game Console Performance Requirements and Test Method

To follow EPA's progress in developing Game Console performance and testing requirements, visit the ENERGY STAR New Product Development website at [www.energystar.gov/NewSpecs](http://www.energystar.gov/NewSpecs) and click on "Game Consoles."

Please direct any specific questions to Paul Karaffa, US EPA, at [karaffa.paul@epa.gov](mailto:karaffa.paul@epa.gov) or (202) 343-9401, Katharine Kaplan, US EPA, at [kaplan.katharine@epa.gov](mailto:kaplan.katharine@epa.gov) or (202) 343-9120, or Evan Haines, ICF International, at [ehaines@icfi.com](mailto:ehaines@icfi.com) or (781) 676-4081. Thank you for taking the time to review this proposal. EPA looks forward to working with you over the next few months to refine these performance requirements and the structure of an EPA recognition campaign.

Sincerely,



Paul Karaffa  
ENERGY STAR Program  
United States Environmental Protection Agency