LEARN MORE AT energystar.gov

ENERGY STAR®, a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency program, helps us all save money and protect our environment through energy efficient products and practices. For more information, visit www.energystar.gov.

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

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

May 31, 2023

Dear ENERGY STAR® Medical Imaging Equipment Manufacturers and Other Interested Stakeholder,

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing the Draft 1, Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR Medical Imaging Equipment Specification.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency launched the ENERGY STAR program in 1992. Since then, ENERGY STAR has grown to become the international standard for energy efficiency and one of the most successful voluntary U.S. government programs in history. ENERGY STAR is a voluntary partnership between government, businesses, and purchasers designed to encourage the manufacture, purchase, and use of efficient products to help protect the environment. Products that earn the ENERGY STAR label reduce greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by EPA in consultation with stakeholders. To date:

- More than 90% of American households recognize the ENERGY STAR label.
- In 2020, more than 2000 manufacturers and 1900 retailers partnered with ENERGY STAR to make and sell millions of ENERGY STAR certified products across more than 75 residential and commercial product categories.
- More than **840** utilities, state and local governments, and nonprofits leverage ENERGY STAR in their efficiency programs, reaching roughly **97%** of households in all 50 states. Nationwide, utilities invested $8.4 billion in energy efficiency programs in 2019.[4]
- Since 1992, ENERGY STAR and its partners helped American families and businesses save **5 trillion** kilowatt-hours of electricity, avoid more than **$450 billion** in energy costs, and achieve **4 billion** metric tons of greenhouse gas reductions.

The ENERGY STAR program benefits partners by benefiting their customers. In 2020 alone, Americans, with the help of ENERGY STAR, 400 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions—and saved $42 billion on their utility bills. Consistent with the commitment to helping consumers save money and reduce their environmental impact, EPA adds new products to the ENERGY STAR product portfolio as compelling new opportunities arise.

Medical imaging equipment contributes about five percent to the energy use of medical facilities. Since ENERGY STAR last considered a specification in this space, interest from buyers in hospital systems and clinics has continued to grow as they look to achieve their energy and emissions savings goals. With this in mind, EPA seeks to establish an ENERGY STAR specification that recognizes medical imaging equipment that can save energy without compromising performance. ENERGY STAR is aware of initiatives in Europe and is looking to build on that effort by expanding energy efficiency in these products to the United States and Canada.

EPA previously released an ENERGY STAR Medical Imaging Equipment Discussion Document for stakeholder review and comment focusing on developing the key components for a specification. These included definitions, scope, test methodology, and criteria, notably power management criteria and energy reporting. EPA is now releasing a Draft 1 specification and test method that consider this early feedback. Note boxes throughout the specification provide EPA's rationale for the enclosed proposals and respond to comments made by stakeholders in response to the Discussion Document.

The Draft 1, Version 1.0 specification incorporates the following key elements:

Scope:
Stakeholders commented that ENERGY STAR should have a limited scope. EPA has considered the comment, but without further justification for why the scope should not follow the COCIR[1] self-regulatory initiative scope, EPA is largely retaining what was presented in the Discussion Document. The Agency has made some slight adjustments based on the stakeholder feedback, particularly clarifying excluded products.

Power Modes and Auto-Power Down:
The efficiency requirements in this specification remain focused on the non-active state of medical imaging products. EPA is proposing to collect energy consumption data on the ready-to-scan mode and low-power mode. The ENERGY STAR program has consistently heard feedback from radiology and facilities staff that they are interested in better understanding the energy consumption of these products so they can factor energy use into purchasing decisions.

In addition, EPA's ENERGY STAR program is proposing that ENERGY STAR certified medical imaging equipment default to having power management capabilities enabled. The Agency understands that not every medical facility's use-cases are appropriate for power management and notes that as proposed, this feature can be turned off based on user needs. However, the Agency also believes that equipment in all but the heaviest use scenarios would benefit from some energy saving power management and offering this functionality in the default setting will allow more facilities to engage it, where prudent to do so.

Test Method:
The Department of Energy (DOE) has made a slight modification to the test method clarifying that all products should be tested with the power saving mode turned on for ENERGY STAR certification purposes.

Comment Submittal
EPA welcomes stakeholder input on the attached Draft 1, Version 1.0 specification. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit any comments to medicalimaging@energystar.gov July 7, 2023. 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 **June 14, 2023, from 12-2 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.

Please contact me at Fogle.Ryan@epa.gov or 202-343-9153 or John Clinger at John.Clinger@icf.com or 215-967-9407 with questions or concerns. For any other medical imaging related questions, please contact medicalimaging@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

Enclosures:
Draft 1, Version 1.0 Specification
Draft 1, Version 1.0 Specification Partner Commitments
Draft 1 Medical Imaging Equipment Test Method

---

[1] COCIR stands for the European Coordination Committee of the Radiological, Electromedical and Healthcare IT Industry

For more information, visit: www.energystar.gov