

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

March 21, 2016

Dear ENERGY STAR® Televisions Brand Owner or Other Interested Party:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposes updates to the Product Type definitions in the ENERGY STAR Televisions specification based on feedback regarding the evolution of products and content delivery.

The great majority of households are no longer receiving television content over-the-air through antennas and manufacturers are adapting to these trends by designing products without tuners (as specified by Advanced Television Systems Committee standards). Because of their lack of tuners, these products would not be considered “televisions” and would fall out of the current ENERGY STAR Version 7.0 scope. However, EPA sees value in promoting efficient technologies regardless of the way content is delivered.

Therefore, EPA is proposing to add a new Home Theater Display definition to the ENERGY STAR Televisions specification, which would cover the new tunerless products, as follows:

1. **Television (TV):** maintain the existing Version 7.0 text as harmonized with the Federal regulatory definition (10 CFR 430.2), “*A product designed to produce dynamic video, contains an internal TV tuner encased within the product housing, and that is capable of receiving dynamic visual content...*”
2. **Home Theater Display (HTD):** add a new definition for “*A product with diagonal viewable screen size greater than 25 inches, that is designed to produce dynamic video, that does not contain an internal TV tuner encased within the product housing, that is primarily marketed for use in home theater applications, and that is capable of receiving dynamic visual content...*”

Just like currently-defined TVs, HTDs would be capable of receiving dynamic visual content from wired or wireless sources including but not limited to display-specific data connections (e.g., HDMI), media storage devices, or the network. EPA further specifies in the proposed Version 7.1 specification update that HTDs do not include Computer Monitors or Signage Displays, which are subject to separate requirements under the ENERGY STAR Displays specification. EPA welcomes stakeholder feedback on the distinction between these different display products and their use cases.

Finally, the current Hospitality Television product category would be renamed to “Hospitality Television/Home Theater Display”, and the definition expanded to accommodate HTDs, without any other changes. EPA does not anticipate significant energy consumption differences between products with and without a tuner, and therefore proposes that the existing Version 7.0 eligibility criteria be applied to both TVs and HTDs. No other changes are being proposed at this time.

Stakeholders are invited to submit written comments to televisions@energystar.gov by April 4, 2016. Documents related to this update, previous drafts, and related Version 7.0 materials can be found on the ENERGY STAR website at http://www.energystar.gov/products/spec/televisions_specification_version_7_0_pd.

Should you have any questions on these or any other issues related to Televisions, please contact me at (202) 343-9845 or radulovic.verena@epa.gov or Matt Malinowski at (202) 862-2693 or matt.malinowski@icfi.com.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Verena Radulovic".

Verena Radulovic, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for Consumer Electronics

Enclosures:
Draft Version 7.1 ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for Televisions