



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

October 31, 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR SUSTAINABILITY OFFICERS

FROM: Kate E. Brandt, Federal Environmental Executive

KEB

SUBJECT: Clarification for Federal Purchasers on ENERGY STAR Qualified and Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)-registered products

This memo is intended to assist agencies in meeting the requirements of the U.S. Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to procure ENERGY STAR qualified and EPEAT-registered products and in meeting the reporting requirements in the OMB Sustainability and Energy Scorecard and agency commitments in the Strategic Sustainability Performance Plans developed pursuant to Executive Order 13514.

Subparts 23.203 and 23.204 of the FAR require Federal agencies to purchase ENERGY STAR or FEMP-designated products when acquiring certain listed energy-consuming products, unless no ENERGY STAR or FEMP-designated product is reasonably available that meets the functional requirements of the agency; or no ENERGY STAR or FEMP-designated product is cost effective over the life of the product, taking energy cost savings into account.

In addition, subpart 23.704 of the FAR requires Federal agencies to acquire EPEAT-registered electronic products, unless there is no EPEAT standard for such products; or the agency head determines that no EPEAT-registered product meets agency requirements, or the EPEAT-registered product will not be cost effective over the life of the product. The requirement applies to contracts performed in the United States, unless otherwise provided by agency procedures.

On February 19, 2014, the Federal Environmental Executive issued a memo clarifying the products covered by EPEAT.¹ Subsequently, on June 24, 2014, the FAR was expanded to reflect the changes in the EPEAT registry to include imaging equipment and televisions, in addition to computer desktops, laptops, and monitors.²

On August 12, 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency announced an expansion of an existing ENERGY STAR category to include, for the first time, slate and tablet devices, two-in-one computers, and portable all-in-ones.³ When ENERGY STAR Computer Specification Version 6.1 took effect on September 10, 2014, the EPEAT registry was also expanded.

¹ <https://www.fedcenter.gov/admin/itemattachment.cfm?attachmentid=797>

² <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-06-24/html/2014-14376.htm>

³ https://www.energystar.gov/about/content/energy_star_update_slates_tablets_and_other_mobile_computers_now_eligible_energy_star

Tablets/slates,⁴ and two-in-one notebooks⁵ are now EPEAT-registered products and therefore Federal purchasers are required to procure ENERGY STAR qualified and EPEAT-registered tablets/slates and two-in-one notebooks, in addition to the previously mentioned product categories described in the February 19, 2014, memo.

To clarify, as of September 10th, 2014, ENERGY STAR and EPEAT cover the following products:

- Computer Desktops, Notebooks (**including Two-in-One Products**), Displays, Integrated Desktop Computers, Workstations, Thin Clients, **and Tablets/Slates**
- Imaging equipment (Printers, Copiers, Multi-Function Devices, Scanners, Fax Machines, Digital Duplicators, Mailing Machines)
- Televisions

ENERGY STAR and EPEAT do not cover the following product categories:

- Cellular Phones, PDAs, or other Handheld/Mobile Devices
- Peripherals, except those sold with covered products
- Digital Whiteboards
- Battery Operated Handheld Scanners and Printers

ENERGY STAR covers the following product categories:

- Desktop Small-Scale) Servers
- Professional Signage/Displays
- Digital Picture Frames

Reporting of EPEAT-registered tablets/slates procured in FY2015 will be included in the "PCs" category of the Electronics Stewardship reporting template for the January 2016 OMB Sustainability/Energy Scorecard. PCs are products listed on the EPEAT registry at www.epeat.net, under "Desktops," "Workstations," "Integrated Desktop Computers," "Thin Clients," and "Tablets/Slates."

⁴ Tablets and Slates are defined by the ENERGY STAR Computer Specification Version 6.1 as:

Slate/Tablet: A computing device designed for portability that meets all of the following criteria:

- a) Includes an integrated display with a diagonal size greater than 6.5 inches and less than 17.4 inches;
- b) Lacking an integrated, physical attached keyboard in its as-shipped configuration;
- c) Includes and primarily relies on touchscreen input; (with optional keyboard);
- d) Includes and primarily relies on a wireless network connection (e.g., Wi-Fi, 3G, etc.); and
- e) Includes and is primarily powered by an internal battery (with connection to the mains for battery charging, not primary powering of the device).

⁵ Two-In-One Notebooks are a subset of Notebooks in the ENERGY STAR Computer Specification 6.1 and are defined as:

Two-In-One Notebook: A computer which resembles a traditional Notebook Computer with a clam shell form factor, but has a detachable display which can act as an independent Slate/Tablet when disconnected. The keyboard and display portions of the product must be shipped as an integrated unit. Two-In-One Notebooks are considered Notebooks in the remainder of this specification and are therefore not referenced explicitly.

Please refer to www.energystar.gov for additional information on procuring ENERGY STAR qualified products and www.epa.gov/epeat for any additional information on procuring EPEAT-registered products.

I encourage you to share this memorandum with your IT and acquisition communities. Thank you for your continued commitment to procure environmentally preferable products.

Cc. Chief Information Officer
Chief Acquisition Officers
Senior Procurement Executives