



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

DIRECTORATE D - New and renewable sources of energy, energy efficiency & innovation
Energy efficiency

Brussels, 13 June 2006
TREN/D3/SK D(2006)

MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ENERGY STAR BOARD (ECESB) 24 MAY 2006, BRUSSELS

DRAFT MINUTES

1 Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 2 December 2005

The minutes of the ECESB meeting of 2 December 2005 were adopted.

3 Renewal of the Agreement with the U.S.A. on the Energy Star Programme: state of play and next steps

The Commission staff presented the status of the renewal of the Energy Star Agreement. It is planned to sign and conclude the new Agreement in autumn 2006. It was pointed out that the new Agreement could contain new technical specifications for imaging equipment, provided that the final draft for the new specifications discussed under item (4) of the Agenda are endorsed by the ECESB and the “133 special committee” of the Council.

New technical specifications for computers are still under development.

During the interim period between expiry of the first (7 June 2006) and entry into force of the new Energy Star Agreement the Commission cannot register complying products.

NL suggested that the Commission should facilitate registration also during the interim period. The chairman confirmed that a pragmatic solution will be ensured for product registration during the interim period.

SE inquired if problems are likely to arise during the interim period. The chairman responded that no particular concerns were raised until now or are envisaged.

On request of FR, the chairman clarified the EU institutional procedures during the negotiations.

4 Revision of the technical specifications for imaging equipment: presentation of final draft

The final draft of the revised technical specifications for imaging equipment has been presented for endorsement by the members of the ECESB. The European experts discussed the revision during the meeting of the technical subgroup of the ECESB on 6 February 2006. The results were presented by the Commission services during a stakeholder meeting in Washington D.C. on 14 February 2006.

The Commission services presented for all product categories a comparison between the proposed energy efficiency levels and the data available. The presentation will be circulated to the members of the ECESB alongside these minutes. The energy efficiency criteria have been defined such that 29% of the models in the data sample available being subject to the “operational mode” (OM) approach, and 41% of the models in the data sample subject to the “typical energy consumption” (TEC) approach may satisfy the criteria. Basing the comparison on the current data for printers contained in the EU database, it is estimated – although difficult due to lack of data details – that approx. 18% of the models satisfy the new OM criteria.

The Commission services argued that the TEC levels are acceptable despite of the deviation from the “25%-compliance” target, the main reason being that the TEC approach is a completely new approach for imaging equipment, and therefore only a limited dataset was available for criteria definition. It is planned to revise the criteria in 2009 based on the data available through product registrations. An estimate for the expected energy savings triggered by the new specifications will be worked out.

The chairman enquired if delegations would object to the proposed new technical specifications. No objections were raised. The chairman concluded that the ECESB members endorse the new technical specifications for imaging equipment and that they will be presented to the 133 committee of the Council for considering their inclusion in the new Energy Star Agreement.

AT asked to make data available which is needed for the assessment of the compliance of a particular product on the EU Energy Star website.

DK suggested that the TEC approach may not be representative for products used mainly in households.

EICTA stressed that the 25%-compliance target should be applied with flexibility, with the aim of making cost effective energy savings. The chairman underlined that this has been done when working out the proposals for the new energy efficiency criteria.

5 State of play of the revision of the technical specifications for computers

The current state of play of revising the technical specifications for computers has been presented. The presentation will be circulated alongside these minutes.

The European experts discussed the revision during the meeting of the technical subgroup of the ECESB on 6 February 2006. The results of the EU input have been considered in draft 2 of the new computer specifications. For idle-on mode it is suggested to have two levels depending on the computer functionality. For sleep mode a “power-adder” approach taking into account large RAM capacity and wake on LAN functionality is being considered. It is planned to organize a meeting of the technical subgroup of the ECESB in September, and to finalize the draft new technical specifications for computers still in 2006 with US EPA.

DK suggested to foresee a standby level of 1 Watt for computers.

6 EU Energy Star website: latest developments

The efforts for updating and further developing the EU Energy Star website have been presented. The database of registered products has been updated. Products being currently offered by manufacturers can be accessed in the section “Current EU models”. Other models are displayed in the section “Discontinued and non-EU models”. Furthermore, navigation has been improved and the content of the entire website, in particular the “energy calculator”, has been updated.

Several delegations expressed their satisfaction with these improvements.

AT and SE pointed out that energy consumption data in the EU Energy Star database is often slightly higher than actual values. The Commission services remarked that the updated technical specifications foresee that actual energy consumption data has to be provided for the market – i.e. grid voltage – where the particular product is on sale.

DE asked to fill data gaps still being observed in the data base.

Participants:

AT, BE, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, IT, LU, NL, SE, UK

Norway, EICTA, GEEA

Chairman: André BRISAER, DG TREN D3