



# Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star  Repealed by <a href="#">2006/0187(COD)</a>	
Subject 3.60 Energy policy 3.70.20 Sustainable development 4.60.02 Consumer information, advertising, labelling	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>ITRE</b> Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		19/04/2000
		PSE <a href="#">MCNALLY Eryl Margaret</a>	
	Former committee responsible		
	<b>ITRE</b> Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		19/04/2000
		PSE <a href="#">MCNALLY Eryl Margaret</a>	
Council of the European Union	Former committee for opinion		
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		22/03/2000
		PPE-DE <a href="#">MÜLLER Emilia Franziska</a>	
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Culture	<a href="#">2381</a>	05/11/2001
	Development	<a href="#">2352</a>	31/05/2001
European Commission	Fisheries	<a href="#">2320</a>	14/12/2000
	Energy	<a href="#">2267</a>	30/05/2000
	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Energy and Transport		

Key events			
28/01/2000	Legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0018	Summary
14/02/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
30/05/2000	Debate in Council	<a href="#">2267</a>	Summary
	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary

09/01/2001			
09/01/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	<a href="#">A5-0006/2001</a>	
31/01/2001	Debate in Parliament		
01/02/2001	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	<a href="#">T5-0050/2001</a>	Summary
20/03/2001	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0142	Summary
31/05/2001	Council position published	<a href="#">06760/1/2001</a>	Summary
13/06/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
12/09/2001	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
12/09/2001	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	<a href="#">A5-0298/2001</a>	
02/10/2001	Debate in Parliament		
03/10/2001	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	<a href="#">T5-0492/2001</a>	Summary
06/11/2001	Final act signed		
06/11/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
15/12/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

### Technical information

Procedure reference	2000/0033(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Repealed by <a href="#">2006/0187(COD)</a>
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 095
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/14404

### Documentation gateway

Document attached to the procedure		COM(1999)0120	15/03/1999	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		COM(2000)0018 <a href="#">OJ C 150 30.05.2000, p. 0073</a>	28/01/2000	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		<a href="#">CES0584/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 204 18.07.2000, p. 0018</a>	24/05/2000	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A5-0006/2001</a>	09/01/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T5-0050/2001</a> <a href="#">OJ C 267 21.09.2001, p. 0020-0049</a>	01/02/2001	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal		COM(2001)0142 <a href="#">OJ C 180 26.06.2001, p. 0262 E</a>	20/03/2001	EC	Summary

Council position		<a href="#">06760/1/2001</a> <a href="#">OJ C 297 23.10.2001, p. 0001</a>	31/05/2001	CSL	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position		SEC(2001)0889	07/06/2001	EC	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		<a href="#">A5-0298/2001</a>	12/09/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		<a href="#">T5-0492/2001</a> OJ C 087 11.04.2002, p. 0057-0120 E	03/10/2001	EP	Summary
Follow-up document		<a href="#">COM(2006)0140</a>	27/03/2006	EC	Summary

#### Additional information

European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>
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#### Final act

[Regulation 2001/2422](#)  
[OJ L 332 15.12.2001, p. 0001](#) Summary

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

**PURPOSE :** to present policy instruments promoting energy efficiency on consumer electronic equipment in stand-by mode. **CONTENT :** Energy efficiency is one of the most important policy areas in attaining the Community's objective of reducing CO2 emissions. There is particularly a need to promote the efficient use of electricity, which is responsible for about 30% of total CO2 emissions. Stand-by losses of consumer electronic equipment are responsible for considerable amounts of electricity. Such losses are rapidly increasing, and this electricity represents a waste of resources. The total EU domestic power consumption of consumer electronic equipment in stand-by mode has been estimated to be around 36 TWh and is predicted to increase to 62 TWh by 2010. The communication considers various instruments such as minimum efficiency performance standards (MEPS), voluntary agreements, and labelling. Among the policy options presented, the Commission feels that negotiated agreements with the manufacturers of consumer electronic equipment is a promising instrument that needs to be explored further with a view to covering more types of equipment. The option of regulation is not excluded if voluntary agreements for some products do not look promising. The introduction of a labelling initiative for energy efficient consumer electronic equipment might help reduce the energy consumption of such equipment, but would, where appropriate, have to be co-ordinated and coherent with the existing EU Eco-label. These policy options will be considered for inclusion in the forthcoming Energy Efficiency Action Plan to be presented by the Commission.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

**PURPOSE :** to establish a Community voluntary labelling energy programme (the 'Energy Star' Programme) for information and communication technology (ICT) equipment product groups. **CONTENT :** This programme will contribute to the Community's objective of reducing CO2 emissions, and will result in large economic savings for ICT equipment users. It offers consumers a tool to contribute to a more sustainable use of energy resources and facilitates international trade for this type of equipment. The scope of the proposed Regulation is to implement the draft Agreement between the United States of America and the European Community and introduce the Energy Star logo as a marking. The draft Regulation: - describes the rules for its use and prohibits its misuse - establishes the general rules and procedures for the Community Energy Star voluntary labelling programme, aimed in particular at ensuring the efficiency and transparency of the Energy Star technical specifications revision process; - ensures Member States participation in the process of revisions of the technical specifications and product group list; - attributes the task of establishing Energy Star technical requirements to a technically competent organisation, the European Union Energy Star Board (EUESB), which would act on mandate from the Commission; - ensures complementarity between the Community scheme and other national energy labelling schemes in the EU - Will stimulate the purchase of efficient equipment by public procurement requiring equipment, which meets the specifications. All expenditure will be borne by the SAVE Programme. The Commission will review the Programme within five years of the entry into force of the Regulation.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

Pending the European Parliament's Opinion, the Council established a favourable position on the proposal for a Regulation on a Community energy efficiency labelling programme for office equipment.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

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The committee adopted the report by Eryl McNALLY (PES, UK) amending the proposal under the codecision procedure (1st reading). The committee felt that, overall, there were practical benefits to the EU signing up to the American 'Energy Star' programme, but it was keen to ensure that regular reviews were carried out to ascertain whether the standards set were ambitious enough and took sufficient account of the concerns of the EU. It suggested that the programme be reviewed within two (rather than five) years of the regulation coming into force to see whether the chosen approach of taking over US standards was the right one in practice, and wanted it to be made clear in the regulation that, in its negotiations with the USA, the EU would endeavour to ensure that the requirements for awarding the label were set sufficiently high. The committee also called for the EUESB to draw up an annual report on the market penetration of products bearing the Energy Star logo and on the technology available for reducing energy consumption. It pointed out that, even if the programme was successful, there were nevertheless other measures for reducing electricity consumption from office equipment, such as simply switching it off when not needed. One practical proposal made by the committee was that a short pamphlet should be enclosed with appliances at the time they were sold, providing information on the labelling scheme. Other points raised in the report included the need for Member States to be more closely involved in the work of the EUESB (for example, by including national energy policy experts on the board) and the need for Council and Parliament to be kept informed of the board's activities. It also pointed out that, in addition to labelling especially efficient equipment, the most inefficient equipment should gradually be withdrawn from the market. If this could not be achieved by a voluntary agreement with manufacturers, then the Commission should draw up legislative proposals.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

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The European Parliament adopted the report by Mrs Eryl Margaret McNALLY (PES, UK) and subsequently adopted the amendments which were outlined in the decision of the committee responsible. (Please refer to the previous text). ?

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In its amended proposal, the European Parliament adopted a series of amendments which serve to elaborate further on specific ideas in the original proposal. The main amendments adopted by the Commission relate to the following: the presence of energy policy experts in the EUESB; the preparation of an annual report by the EUESB; the EP be informed of the activities of the EUESB; the working plan is reviewed every year; the Commission take into account the new technologies as indicated in the report to be prepared by the EUESB; a short brochure be made available to inform consumers; Member States to make maximum efforts to encourage the take up of the Energy Star labelling scheme and finally, the Commission establish a report to the European Parliament and the Council, including an assessment of the effectiveness of the Energy Star Programme every three years.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

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The Council concluded that the focus of the regulation should be limited to office equipment. Since the programme is voluntary, the regulation is unlikely to have a significant harmonising effect. Therefore the Council felt that the correct legal bases should not be Article 95, as proposed by the Commission, but rather Article 175.1 of the Treaty. The Council also clarified the role and procedures of the European Community Energy Star Board and the role of Member States representatives as well as procedures for the revision of technical criteria, where the high level at which technical specifications shall be set is underlined. The Council has adopted in full or in part, sometimes in spirit, the 14 amendments tabled by the Parliament.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

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There is broad agreement between the Commission's modified proposal and the common position. The Commission supports the common position in substance. It cannot, however, agree to the new legal base proposed by the Council. The correct legal base for this proposal is Article 95, which is used for all the energy efficiency initiatives for traded goods. All these initiatives, including this proposal, have as primary objective the harmonisation of labels and efficiency requirements at Community level, thus avoiding potential barriers to trade.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

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The committee adopted the report by Eryl McNALLY (PES, UK) approving the Council's common position under the codecision procedure (2nd reading). It adopted just one amendment (retabled from 1st reading) stating that, in addition to labelling especially efficient equipment, the most inefficient equipment should gradually be withdrawn from the market. If this could not be achieved by a voluntary agreement with

manufacturers, then the Commission should draw up legislative proposals. ?

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The European Parliament approved the resolution on the common position by Mrs Margaret McNALLY (PES, UK). It rejected an amendment proposed by the rapporteur after the Commissioner Michel Barnier promised that the Commission would present, during the first half of 2002, a proposal to ensure that particular inefficient office equipment would be taken off the market.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

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PURPOSE : to establish a Community energy efficiency labelling programme for office equipment. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Regulation 2422/2001/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Community energy efficiency labelling for office equipment. CONTENT : this Regulation establishes the rules for the Community energy efficiency labelling programmes for office equipment as defined in the Agreement between the USA and the EU on the coordination of energy efficiency labelling programmes for office equipment. Participation in the Energy Star programmes is on a voluntary basis. The Energy Star programmes shall be coordinated, as appropriate, with other Community labelling or quality certification arrangements as well as with schemes such as the Community eco-label award scheme as established by Regulation 880/92/EEC and the indication by labelling and standard product information of the compensation of energy and other resources by household appliances as established by Directive 92/75/EEC. The common logo, identified in the Annex, may be used by programme participants and other bodies on their individual office equipment products and on the associated promotion. The Commission shall make the maximum effort to encourage the use of the common logo by appropriate awareness-raising actions and information campaigns for consumers, suppliers, dealers and the general public. The Commission shall establish a European Community Energy Star Board (ECESB) consisting of national representatives as well as relevant interested parties. The ECESB shall review the implementation within the Community of the Energy Star programme and shall provide advice and assistance to the Commission to enable it to carry out its role as management entity. One year following the entry into force of this Regulation, and every year thereafter, the ECESB shall draw up a report on the market penetration of products bearing the common logo and on the technology available for reducing energy consumption. In addition, each Member State shall designate national energy policy experts, authorities or persons responsible for carrying out the tasks provided in this Regulation. The Commission shall establish a working plan within 6 months from the entry into force of this Regulation and propose it to the European Parliament and the Council, following consultation of the ECESB. The working plan shall include a strategy for the development of the Energy Star programme, which shall set out for the subsequent three years: - the objectives for the energy efficiency improvements, bearing in mind the need to pursue a high standard of consumer and environmental protection and the market penetration which the Energy Star programme should seek to achieve at Community level; - a non-exhaustive list of office equipment products which should be considered as priorities for inclusion in the Energy Star programme; - outline proposals for educational and promotional campaigns and other necessary actions; - proposals for coordination and cooperation between the Energy Star programme and other voluntary energy labelling schemes in Member States. The Commission shall produce and submit to the European Parliament and the Council by 15 January 2005 a report monitoring the energy efficiency of the office equipment market in the Community, giving an evaluation of the effectiveness of Energy Star programme and proposing, if necessary, measures complementary to the programme. The report shall examine the result of the dialogue between the EU and the USA and in particular whether Energy Star specifications are effective enough. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 12.12.2001.?

## Energy efficiency products: office and communication technology equipment, labelling programme Energy Star

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This is a Commission Report into the effect of the ENERGY STAR programme on office equipment sold in the EU. The ENERGY STAR programme is owned by the US EPA and is applied on a global basis. In 2000, the EU signed an 'Agreement between the United States of America and the European Community on the coordination of energy-efficient labelling programs for office equipment'. The Agreement expires in June 2006.

The programme itself establishes a framework for fostering energy efficient office equipment. Mostly enacted through the co-ordination of labelling schemes, the ENERGY STAR programme allows manufacturers of office equipment to register their products voluntarily on the basis that their products comply with certain energy efficiency requirements as defined by the programme.

In this Report the Commission firstly examines current efforts to renew the technical specifications in the field of energy saving measures, secondly gives an overview of activities promoting the ENERGY STAR programme and thirdly summarises the results of discussions within the European Energy Star Board or ECESB.

The Report finds that there is a continuing need to promote and continue with the ENERGY STAR programme. The Commission, therefore, suggests that the Agreement be continued for a further five years. In summary, the Commission argues for a renewal of the Agreement based on the following findings:

- The efficient use of energy is vital for a sustainable EU energy supply.
- Office equipment accounts for a significant share of EU energy consumption. If current trends continue the increased use of office equipment for longer periods of time will require further energy saving measures.
- The ENERGY STAR programme provides a useful framework for the co-ordination of Member State and Community efforts to improve office equipment efficiency.
- The programme acts as a global platform for the co-ordination of international actions to improve office equipment energy gains in countries such as the USA, Japan, Korea and other key markets.

- The ENERGY STAR programme has the support of manufacturers. Indeed, in the USA any public procurement contracts must respect the technical specifications relating to the programme.
- The input of EU experts vis-à-vis technical specifications contributes towards the development of consistent and demanding standards.
- Rapid technological developments require voluntary, flexible instruments such as the ENERGY STAR programme as opposed to the use of compulsory provisions.
- The ENERGY STAR programme, and its database in particular, may be used by national, regional and local authorities for the promotion of energy efficient goals.

The ECESB held a meeting with the Commission in December 2005 at which it broadly supported the assessments and analysis laid out in this Report. Based on these findings it too endorses the principle of concluding a new Agreement with the USA.