

EPEAT Program

Continuous Monitoring Round Plan



Televisions
TV-2021-03
August 27, 2021

Background

EPEAT® is a comprehensive voluntary sustainability Type 1 ecolabel that helps purchasers identify sustainable technology products and services. Central to EPEAT are conformity assurance activities that meet the technical rigor and credibility needs of the institutional purchasers who rely upon EPEAT. The EPEAT Program ensures the ongoing conformance of EPEAT-registered products through an ongoing surveillance process known as Continuous Monitoring. Continuous Monitoring activities occur throughout the year and test the ability of Participating Manufacturers to prove conformance with EPEAT Criteria on an ongoing basis.

Some Continuous Monitoring activities require that Investigations be conducted in discrete timeframes called Rounds. The EPEAT Program develops an individual plan for each Continuous Monitoring Round, which specifies the EPEAT Criteria to be investigated, the method of investigation that GEC-approved Conformity Assurance Bodies (CABs) must use and the specific dates when the Investigation activities must be completed. The EPEAT Program also selects the Participating Manufacturers and EPEAT-registered products and assigns Investigations to CABs, which must fully participate in and are responsible for implementing Continuous Monitoring Round activities with their Participating Manufacturer clients. Participating Manufacturers are required to cooperate fully with their GEC-approved CAB during Round activities.

This document contains the individual plan for Continuous Monitoring Round TV-2021-03.

Continuous Monitoring Round TV-2021-03 Investigation Activities

Continuous Monitoring Round TV-2021-03 will use Documentation Review to determine the conformance of products with specific EPEAT Criteria. The EPEAT Program assigns specific products and EPEAT Criteria for evaluation to GEC-approved CABs. Participating Manufacturers have a discrete time period in which they must provide evidence that supports conformance with the selected Criteria. GEC-approved CABs review the documentation, make recommendations on conformity based solely on the evidence provided by Participating Manufacturers, and send Investigation Reports to the EPEAT Program, which makes the final decisions on conformity.

Continuous Monitoring Round TV-2021-03 Criteria and Product Selection

Continuous Monitoring Round TV-2021-03 is a Targeted Round focused on two recycling-related Criteria. Manufacturers were assigned one investigation per Criteria and the products were selected randomly using a random number generator. Since both Criteria are Required Criteria, each Participating Manufacturer received two investigations.

| Overview of Criteria and Products Selected | |
|--|--|
| Product Category | Televisions |
| Number of Products Selected | 4 |
| Criteria Selected | 4.3.2.2 – Plastic markings |
| | 4.3.2.5 – Restriction on materials not compatible with reuse and recycling |

Continuous Monitoring Round TV-2021-03 Schedule

| Phase of Round | Date |
|---|---------------------------|
| Preparation Phase | |
| CABs notified of Round schedule and activities by EPEAT | August 23, 2021 |
| CABs receive Round assignments and materials from EPEAT | August 30, 2021 |
| Week of Round Training for CABs | Week of September 6, 2021 |
| Investigation Phase (CABs performing investigations) | |
| Investigative period begins | October 4, 2021 |
| Investigative period ends | January 16, 2022 |
| Deadline for CAB submission of Investigation Reports to EPEAT | January 31, 2022 |
| Deliberation Phase (EPEAT making conformity decisions) | |
| Deliberation period begins | February 1, 2022 |
| CABs receive Investigation Reports with final conformity decisions from EPEAT | March 2, 2022 |
| Corrective Action Phase (Participating Manufacturers restoring accuracy of EPEAT Registry) | |
| Corrective action period begins | March 10, 2022 |
| Corrective action period ends | April 9, 2022 |
| Deadline for CAB submission of corrective action reports to EPEAT | April 17, 2022 |
| CABs receive final Investigation Reports with correction decisions from EPEAT | May 3, 2022 |
| Reporting Phase | |
| Outcomes Report published | May 11, 2022 |

Process Details – Continuous Monitoring Using Documentation Review

Continuous Monitoring Rounds that use Documentation Review activities are conducted in accordance with EPEAT Policy Manual (P65) and EPEAT Conformity Assurance Implementation Manual (also called EPEAT Requirements of CABs and Conformity Assurance Procedures) (P66) in effect at the time of the Round.

- The EPEAT Program downloads a list of all active EPEAT-registered products, select products from the list for investigation and assigns EPEAT Criteria to products, as per the Round Plan.

- GEC-approved CABs receive the list of products and EPEAT Criteria selected for their Participating Manufacturer clients but do not yet notify the Participating Manufacturers of the imminent investigations.
- The EPEAT Program publishes the Round Plan on the start date of the Round.
- On the start date of the Round, GEC-approved CABs notify the Participating Manufacturers that their products have been selected for investigation and begin the evidence collection process.
- Participating Manufacturers have a discrete time period in which they must provide evidence that supports conformance with the selected Criteria.
- GEC-approved CABs review the documentation, make recommendations on conformity based solely on the evidence provided by Participating Manufacturers, and prepare an Investigation Report for each product.
- GEC-approved CABs submit the Investigation Reports to the EPEAT Program. At the same time, CABs forward these same Reports to the Participating Manufacturers.
- The EPEAT Program reviews Investigation Reports and makes the final decisions on conformity. The EPEAT Program then sends the Investigation Reports back to the GEC-approved CABs.
- GEC-approved CABs send the Investigation Reports with the final decision on conformity to the Participating Manufacturers.
- For decisions of nonconformance, Participating Manufacturers must make corrections within 30 calendar days to restore the accuracy of the EPEAT Registry.
- The EPEAT Program publishes an Outcomes Report identifying the nonconforming products and Participating Manufacturers, as well as the actions taken to restore accuracy of the EPEAT Registry.

| <i>Document Control and Change History</i> | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|--|--|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Issue</i> | <i>Revision</i> | <i>Owner</i> | <i>Approver</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Approval Date</i> | <i>Effective Date</i> |
| 1 | 0 | Senior Manager, Ecolabels and Resources | Director, EPEAT Program | Initial release | 2020 Aug 20 | 2020 Aug 23 |
| 1 | 1 | Senior Manager, Ecolabels and Resources | Senior Director, Ecolabels and Manufacturer Resources | Updates throughout to match revisions to P66. Addition of Preparation Phase to schedule table. | 2021 Feb 22 | 2021 Feb 26 |