

Green Electronics Council

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PLAN FOR VERIFICATION ROUND PC-2016-02

PCs and Displays May 2016

I. PURPOSE AND CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document outlines the plan for a Verification Round of Investigations to be performed in accordance with the P15 Verification Procedure, this Verification Plan, and other governing documents.

II. SELECTION OF CRITERIA AND PRODUCTS FOR VERIFICATION

Verification Round PC-2016-02 will investigate targeted criteria from IEEE 1680.1 and randomly chosen products. Eighty-six (86) targeted Level 1 investigations are planned for this Round. In addition, this round will contain thirteen (13) Level 2 / 3 investigations due to the fact that GEC could not obtain two products in the marketplace in 2015. In Level 1 investigations, an Auditor assesses Conformance to a criterion by examining information submitted by a Participating Manufacturer. The Manufacturer is required to provide detailed and accurate information in a 60-day period. In Level 2 investigations, the Product Registration Entity buys or borrows a product and has the product disassembled and inspected to assess conformance with one or more criteria. In Level 3 investigations, the Product Registration Entity obtains a product, and has the product analytically tested to assess conformance with one or more criteria.

Level 1 Investigations - Targeted Criteria and Manufacturers:

This category includes those criteria for which, in a previous investigation, corrective actions did not fully address other products potentially impacted by the issue causing the non-conformance for the investigated product. The category will target specific Manufacturers for Level 1 investigations of the following reasons for verification and criteria:

- Criteria that have not been targeted in the last 12 months 4.2.2.1, 4.2.2.2
- Criteria for which Non-Conformances are suspected 4.3.1.9, 4.8.2.2
- Criteria where Corrective Actions didn't address other affected products 4.3.1.9, 4.8.5.1

The products and criteria will be selected as follows:

	Selection Process:	Notes:
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Step 1	A list of all products will be pulled from the EPEAT Registry.	All products that are currently active in the Registry will be included.
	the LFLAT Registry.	the Registry will be included.
Step 2	Sort the list of products on 4.8.2.2. From this list, GEC will randomly select a product for each Manufacturer.	All manufacturers claiming 4.8.2.2 will be investigated for this criterion.

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Step 3	Sort the remaining list of products on criterion 4.3.1.9. From this list, GEC will randomly select a product for each Manufacturer claiming 4.3.1.9.	All products claiming 4.3.1.9 will be investigated for this criterion.
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Step 4	If any of the selected products also claim 4.2.2.1 AND have a value greater than 0, that criterion will also be selected for investigation.	
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Step 5	Sort the original list of products on criterion 4.2.2.2. From this list, GEC will randomly select a product for each Manufacturer claiming 4.2.2.2.	All manufacturers claiming 4.2.2.2 will be investigated for this criterion.
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Step 6	Sort the original list of products, on criterion 4.2.2.1 with a value greater than 0%. From this list, GEC will randomly select a product for each Manufacturer claiming 4.2.2.1 with a value greater than 0% but not yet selected for 4.2.2.1.	All manufacturers claiming 4.2.2.1 with a value greater than 0 = and not previously selected will be investigated for this criterion.
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Step 7	Sort list of products already chosen on criterion 4.8.5.1. From this list, GEC will target one of the products for each Manufacturer with suspected Non-Conformance claiming 4.8.5.1.	All manufacturers with suspected Non- Conformance claiming 4.8.5.1 will be investigated for this criterion.

- All products that are currently active in the Registry are eligible for inclusion, and will be chosen first through a random selection process.
- All geographies and Manufacturers are eligible for inclusion.
- Exception is as follows: If a criterion is randomly selected for a product and that product has been investigated against that criterion in the last six months, a new criterion will be randomly selected for the product.
- For targeted, Level 1 investigations, Manufacturers will not be subject to more than five investigations during this Round. This does not include Level 2/3 Investigations below.

<u>Level 2/3 Investigations - Targeted Criteria and Manufacturers:</u>

This category includes those products and manufacturers for which, in a previous investigation, products were unavailable for purchase during the Level 2 / 3 Verification Round. These products will be investigated for all criteria listed in the table below which are currently being claimed. The CAB has 30

days to obtain the products. Testing should be completed 60 days after the products have been obtained.

Criterion	Description of Criterion	Level 2	Level 3
4.1.8.1	Optional – Large parts free of PVC	Х	Х
4.3.1.3	Required – Easy disassembly of external enclosures	Х	
4.3.1.5	Required – Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Х	
4.3.1.7	Optional – Molded/glued in metal eliminated or removable	Х	
4.3.2.2	Optional – Marking of plastics	Х	Х
4.8.2.1	Required – Separable packing materials	Х	
4.8.2.2	Optional – Packaging 90% recyclable and plastics labeled	Х	

III. VERIFICATION PROCESS

Level 1 Investigations - Targeted Criteria and Manufacturers:

The Level 1 portion of the Verification Round will proceed in accordance with current procedures, as outlined below.

- 1. The Conformity Decision Panel will approve this Verification Round Plan.
- 2. The Green Electronics Council will take a "snapshot" of the Registry. Products will be selected as per this document.
- 3. The Verification Round Plan will be published on epeat.net.
- 4. The Green Electronics Council will instruct Conformity Assurance Bodies (if applicable see Section V) to proceed with the investigations.
- 5. Conformity Assurance Bodies will assign investigations to (an) Auditor(s), and will notify the subject Manufacturers that their products are being investigated.
- 6. The Auditors will perform the investigations as assigned within 60 calendar days, and prepare an Investigation Report for each investigation, recommending conformance or nonconformance.
- 7. Conformity Assurance Bodies will review all Investigation Reports to ensure they are clear and complete and the evidence supports the recommendation, and will forward the Report and supporting evidence to the Green Electronics Council.
- 8. The Conformity Decision Panel will review the reports and make a decision regarding conformity. The identity of the products and Manufacturers will not be disclosed to the Conformity Decision Panel. The Conformity Decision Panel will be blind to the specific products and Manufacturers for which they are making conformity decisions.

- Conformity Assurance Bodies will inform the subject Manufacturers of the Conformity
 Decision Panel's conformity decision. For decisions of Non-Conformance, Manufacturers will
 be required to take corrective action within 14 calendar days to restore the accuracy of the
 declaration in the EPEAT Registry.
- 10. The Green Electronics Council will publish a "Verification Round Outcomes Report" identifying the nonconforming products and Manufacturers, as well as the action taken to restore accuracy of the declarations in the Registry.

Level 2/3 Investigations - Targeted Criteria and Manufacturers:

The Level 2/3 portion of the Verification Round will proceed in accordance with the current procedures, as outlined below.

- 1. EPEAT will take a "snapshot" of the Registry. Products will be selected as per this document.
- 2. EPEAT will publish the Verification Round Plan on epeat.net.
- 3. EPEAT will instruct Conformity Assurance Body (if applicable see Section V) to proceed with product purchase and the Level 2/3 investigations. Due to the difficulty in obtaining the products in 2015, the Conformity Assurance Body may work directly with the Manufacturer to procure the product.
- 4. After obtaining the products, the Conformity Assurance Body will notify their subject Manufacturers that their products are being investigated, if applicable.
- 5. Conformity Assurance Body will review all Investigation Reports to ensure they are clear, complete and the evidence supports the recommendation, and will forward the Reports and supporting evidence to EPEAT. At the same time, Conformity Assurance Body will forward the Reports (without the final Product Verification Committee's decision) to the subject Manufacturers.
- 6. The Product Verification Committee will review the reports and make a decision regarding conformity. The products and Manufacturers will not be disclosed to the Product Verification Committee, as the Committee must be blind to the specific product and Manufacturer for which they are making conformity decisions.
- 7. Conformity Assurance Body will inform the subject Manufacturers of the Product Verification Committee's conformity decision. For decisions of Non-Conformance, Manufacturers are required to take corrective action within 14 calendar days to restore the accuracy of the EPEAT Registry.
- 8. EPEAT will publish a "Verification Round Outcomes Report" identifying the nonconforming products and Manufacturers, as well as the action taken to restore accuracy of the Registry.

IV. CONFORMITY DECISION PANEL

The following individuals are the members of the Conformity Decision Panel:

• Libby Chaplin, CEO, Arcadian Solutions

- Patty Dillon, Dillon Environmental Associates
- Jack Geibig, President, Ecoform
- Robert Pfahl, Ph.D., Pfahl Consulting LLC
- Annette Roesler, Ph.D., Independent Professional Chemist

V. CONFORMITY DECISION BODIES AND AUDITORS

All investigations will be conducted through Conformity Assurance Bodies approved by the Green Electronics Council. The following Conformity Assurance Bodies may be involved in Investigations for this Verification Round:

- Dekra
- Green Electronics Council Conformity Assurance Body
- UL Environment

VI. VERIFICATION ROUND PLAN APPROVAL

The Conformity Decision Panel approved this Verification Round Plan by discussion and/or email on April 15, 2016.

VII. SUMMARY OF PC-2016-02 PLANNED INVESTIGATIONS

Criterion	Verification Selection and Process for Level 1 Investigations - Targeted Criteria and Manufacturers	# Planned Investigations
4.2.2.1	Level 1 investigation.	Up to 4
	Investigate each manufacturer with a product having a value greater than	
	zero.	
4.2.2.2	Level 1 investigation.	1
	Investigate each manufacturer selecting this criterion.	
4.3.1.9	Level 1 investigation.	Up to 42
	High number of non-conformances in past rounds.	
	Investigate each manufacturer selecting this criterion.	
4.8.2.2	Level 1 investigation.	Up to 38
	High number of suspected non-conformances.	
	Investigate each manufacturer selecting this criterion.	
4.1.8.1	Level 2 and 3 investigations.	Up to 2
	Targeted investigation of products unable to acquire in 2015.	
4.3.1.3	Level 2 investigation.	Up to 2
	Targeted investigation of products unable to acquire in 2015.	
4.3.1.5	Level 2 investigation.	Up to 2
	Targeted investigation of products unable to acquire in 2015.	
4.3.1.7	Level 2 investigation.	Up to 2
	Targeted investigation of products unable to acquire in 2015.	
4.3.2.2	Level 2 and 3 investigations.	Up to 2
	Targeted investigation of products unable to acquire in 2015.	

Criterion	Verification Selection and Process for Level 1 Investigations - Targeted Criteria	# Planned
	and Manufacturers	Investigations
4.8.2.1	Level 2 investigation.	Up to 2
	Targeted investigation of products unable to acquire in 2015.	
4.8.2.2	Level 2 investigation.	Up to 2
	Targeted investigation of products unable to acquire in 2015.	
	Total	Up to 99