CALL FOR PARTICIPATION
GEC SUSTAINABLE USE OF RESOURCES CRITERIA

December 15, 2021, revised January 25, 2022

Technical Committee launching for Sustainable Use of Resources criteria for EPEAT ecolabel – now is your opportunity to get involved!

The Global Electronics Council (GEC) is developing criteria to address sustainable use of resources, including circularity throughout the life cycle of electronic products. These criteria will be leveraged across all EPEAT product categories, including computers and displays, mobile phones, imaging equipment, servers, and televisions. This Call for Participation is to notify stakeholders of the opportunity to participate on the multi-stakeholder Technical Committee that will evaluate and reach consensus on sustainability leadership criteria to reduce the stress on global resources and greenhouse gas emissions, GEC is partnering with NSF International, an organization with extensive expertise in managing voluntary consensus processes, to convene and manage the Technical Committee.

Scope of Criteria

The criteria on Sustainable Use of Resources will address best practices for mitigating environmental impacts associated with production and consumption of ICT devices, inclusive of criteria addressing material selection, product longevity, design for reuse and recycling, critical metals/rare earth elements, responsible end-of-life management, zero waste manufacturing and water consumption in the supply chain, and packaging. The State of Sustainability Research on Sustainable Use of Resources provides the scientific basis for these criteria.

The Sustainable Use of Resources criteria are one of four criteria modules being developed by GEC for application across its EPEAT product categories. Criteria are also being developed for Climate Change Mitigation, Reduction of Chemicals of Concern, and Corporate ESG Performance. See the overview for more information on these Criteria Modules by Sustainability Impact and GEC's criteria development process.

Stakeholder Participation in the Technical Committee

The Technical Committee is the consensus body in the GEC criteria development process. The Technical Committee is responsible for ensuring that proposed criteria address priority sustainability impacts identified in the State of Sustainability Research and will move the industry and its supply chain to innovate and adopt best practices that achieve credible, verifiable reductions in sustainability impacts and increase

transparency. This Technical Committee is expected to begin its work in Q2 2022 and continue for up to 7 months. Technical Committee meetings will occur monthly via teleconference. Members are expected to review documents in advance of meetings, provide comments on criteria and actively engage in discussion (either on calls or by electronic means), and participate in the ballot process to approve criteria and reconcile stakeholder differences.

Membership on the Technical Committee is open to all interested parties by submitting the *Technical Committee Application Form*. The Technical Committee will include up to 21 voting members, representing a balance of stakeholders from four categories:

- **Manufacturer**: Manufacturer of products or services covered by the scope of the criteria and their trade associations.
- **Other Industry**: Other businesses commercially engaged with the products or services such as:
  - Suppliers and their trade associations.
  - Recyclers, repair and refurbish companies, asset management service providers, and their trade associations.
  - Other types of businesses commercially engaged with the product.
- **Sustainability Advocates and Government Policy**: Individual from a public agency (local, regional, state, federal, or international) or represents a professional public/environmental health/safety organization, data privacy and/or IT security, academia, or not-for-profit environmental organization.
- **Purchasers and Ecolabel Criteria Users:** An individual whose organization purchases, uses, or specifies products or services covered in the scope of the criteria. User/consumers and their trade association representatives, institutional purchasers, third-party conformity assessment bodies (e.g., testing laboratories), and retailers are included in this membership classification.

Technical Committee member applications will be reviewed and members selected by NSF using the following considerations:
- technical competency and qualifications of the applicant relevant to the criteria;
- balance of stakeholder interests;
- geographic and product representation;
- date of receipt of application; and
- participation in recent or concurrent processes.

If you are interested in applying as a voting member of the Technical Committee, please complete the *Technical Committee Application Form*, and return **by 11:59 PM EST on February 11, 2022** to Greta Baragar, Sustainability Standards Lead, NSF International (gbaragar@nsf.org). Individuals that are not selected to be a voting member of the Technical Committee will be given the option to be an Observer to the process.

Technical Committee Observers

If you are interested in participating as a Technical Committee Observer, please contact Greta Baragar (gbaragar@nsf.org) to apply for Observer status. Please include in your correspondence the organization that you represent. NSF will provide an Observer Agreement that must be completed before granting Observer status.

Questions?

Please contact Greta Baragar (gbaragar@nsf.org) with any questions regarding the Technical Committee application process. Please contact GEC at Criteria@globalelectronicscouncil.org for questions about the overall GEC criteria development process and application in EPEAT. Additional information on the GEC criteria development process is [publicly available](#).