

GREEN TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAM EXTENDED UNTIL 2011

In November 2010, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) announced its decision to extend its Green Technology Pilot Program (Program) due date from December 8, 2010 to December 31, 2011. The Program began in December 2009 as a way to provide expedited processing of patent applications related to green technology. In several cases, patent applications in the Program have been issued within a year of the filing date.

To be included in the Program, the USPTO requires that petitions for expedited processing of an application must state how the application relates to: (1) the development of a renewable energy source or energy conservation or (2) the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

More details on the extension of the Green Technology Pilot Program can be found in the Federal Register at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-28394.pdf>.