

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

March 2, 2006

Dear Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machine Manufacturers and Other Interested Parties:

In April 2004, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched the ENERGY STAR[®] Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machine specification. Since the program's inception, ENERGY STAR manufacturing partners have qualified more than 60 indoor and outdoor models. However, this specification only "applies to new machine models and machines in the field that are identical to the models that are ENERGY STAR qualified as new machines"(Section 2: Qualifying Products).

According to various industry sources, there are approximately 3 – 4 million refrigerated beverage vending machines installed in the U.S. With product lifetimes of 10 years or more and an industry accepted refurbishment process occurring every 4-5 years it is common practice to place existing machines in new accounts, as opposed to purchasing a brand new machine. Many of these older machines could be retrofitted with high efficiency components and essentially upgraded to perform to ENERGY STAR efficiency levels. Recognizing the significant savings potential of upgrading the installed base to ENERGY STAR and responding to the industry demand for addressing existing machine inventories, EPA agreed to develop a remanufactured machine specification immediately following the release of the ENERGY STAR new machine specification.

Soon after the launch of the ENERGY STAR vending machine program, EPA developed a Draft 1 strawman that included preliminary ideas on how an ENERGY STAR remanufactured machine program might be implemented and administered by EPA. This Draft 1 strawman was distributed to stakeholders for review and comment in October, 2004. Over the last year, EPA has met with various industry stakeholders to discuss this Draft 1 strawman including a meeting with members of the National Automatic Merchandisers Association (NAMA) Energy Group, on October 26, 2005.

Based on the NAMA Energy Group meeting and additional stakeholder discussions, EPA has revised the Draft 1 strawman and now welcomes your input on the following **Draft 2** specification for ENERGY STAR qualified **Rebuilt Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machines**. This document outlines the requirements of the ENERGY STAR partners participating in the program and the criteria rebuilt machines will need to meet to qualify as ENERGY STAR. All interested parties should provide comments **by March 30, 2006** to Rebecca Duff, ICF Consulting, at rduff@icfconsulting.com.

The Draft 2 specification has been reorganized to reflect typical ENERGY STAR Program Requirements in terms of Partner Commitments and Eligibility Criteria. Once finalized, these elements will be incorporated into the existing ENERGY STAR Specification as appropriate, thereby making rebuilt machines eligible for ENERGY STAR. The following are some of the key requirements of the Draft 2 specification:

- Refurbishment centers (RC) must join the program as an ENERGY STAR partner to be able to perform retrofits and apply the ENERGY STAR mark on rebuilt vending machines.
- Rebuilt vending machines will be expected to meet both the energy consumption and low power mode requirements of the current ENERGY STAR Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machine specification.
- Each completed ENERGY STAR qualified rebuilt vending machine will receive a “refurbishment label/sticker” that includes a new model number, date of remanufacturing, and the ENERGY STAR certification mark to indicate that the machine has been upgraded to ENERGY STAR performance levels.
- The Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) will be responsible for testing each machine and component combination to ASHRAE 32.1-2004 for ENERGY STAR qualification. The OEM will also be required to verify that each component is UL Listed, or equivalent.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to review this Draft 2 specification. I look forward to working with you over the next few months to finalize this specification. As always, please feel free to contact me at schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov or (202) 343-9124 with any questions or concerns.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Schmeltz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "z".

Rachel Schmeltz
ENERGY STAR Program Manager
Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machines