

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

September 8, 2008

Dear Commercial Griddle Manufacturer or Other Interested Stakeholder:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am pleased to present the Draft 1 Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR Commercial Griddle specification. The purpose of this letter is to introduce you to the elements of the Draft specification, request your review and comment of these documents by October 10, 2008, and invite you to participate in an on-line stakeholder meeting to be held September 25, 2008 at 1:00 pm EDT.

Background

EPA announced its interest in pursuing an ENERGY STAR specification for commercial griddles in November, 2007. EPA conducted extensive background research on the viability of such a specification including the market for griddles, their design, energy savings potential, and the cost effectiveness of energy efficiency for purchasers. In July 2008, EPA asked manufacturers to provide information on standard and high efficiency equipment price points to determine whether an ENERGY STAR commercial griddle program would be cost effective to the end user. EPA's cost effectiveness analysis showed favorable results (i.e., payback < 5 years) and therefore, a decision was made to move forward with the development of an ENERGY STAR specification for commercial griddles.

Elements of Draft 1 Specification

The Draft 1 specification includes two documents: the Eligibility Criteria and the Partner Commitments. The Eligibility Criteria document details the proposed energy efficiency requirements and testing procedures that manufacturers would need to abide by in order to qualify their products as ENERGY STAR. The ENERGY STAR Partner Commitments document provides the basic partnership requirements for participating manufacturers that are standard across all product categories. These requirements include product labeling, submittal of annual ENERGY STAR shipment data, and reporting of qualifying product information.

The Eligibility Criteria were developed based on review of data provided by PG&E's Food Service Technology Center (FSTC) and subsequent manufacturer discussions. Provided below are the key requirements of the Draft 1 specification. Additional details are provided in note boxes throughout the document.

- Single- and double-sided thermostatically controlled commercial griddles are eligible for qualification.
- Gas and electric models must meet minimum cooking energy efficiency levels and maximum idle energy rates, which are normalized based on square footage of the cooking surface (watts/ft²), to earn the ENERGY STAR.

- Double-sided griddles that include an electric top plate and gas bottom plate must meet the cooking energy efficiency and idle energy rate for gas griddles. A conversion calculation is provided to determine normalized idle energy rate for the electric top plate in Btu/h per ft².

On-Line Stakeholder Meeting

EPA will host an on-line meeting on **Thursday, September 25 at 1:00 pm EDT** to provide an overview of the ENERGY STAR program and answer questions regarding the specification development process. Interested parties should RSVP to Natalie Chadwick, ICF International, at nchadwick@icfi.com by **Friday, September 19**. Call-in information will be provided to attendees prior to the call. Stakeholders who cannot attend the Web conference may schedule a separate discussion with ENERGY STAR representatives by contacting Rachel Schmeltz, EPA, at schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov or Rebecca Duff, ICF International, at rduff@icfi.com.

Comment Submittal

The exchange of ideas and information among EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. As such, you are strongly encouraged to provide written feedback to EPA. Please send your comments to Rebecca Duff at rduff@icfi.com by **October 10, 2008**.

All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site unless the submitter requests that their comments remain confidential. If you support the Draft 1 specification, please state this in writing or via email. It is equally important that EPA understand which portions of the draft specification meet with stakeholder approval, in addition to identifying the sections that may need further revision.

To track EPA's progress in developing the ENERGY STAR specification for commercial griddles, visit the Product Development Web site at www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment (Click on "New Specifications Under Development").

Thank you for taking the time to review this draft specification. I look forward to working with you over the next few months. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or concerns at (202) 343-9124 or via e-mail at schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Rachel Schmeltz, EPA
ENERGY STAR Product Development