

Dear Commercial Griddle Manufacturer or Other Interested Stakeholder,

The purpose of this email is to provide an update on EPA's efforts to develop the ENERGY STAR® specification for commercial griddles.

As you know, a Draft 1 specification was released for review and comment in early September. One month later, EPA hosted an online meeting to discuss the specification development process and Draft 1 proposal. Based on stakeholder comments, EPA has decided to take the next two months to collect data, conduct research, and hold additional discussions with manufacturers with the goal of determining how to appropriately address double-sided griddles with top platens that provide only partial coverage and to further build EPA's reference data set, particularly for electric models.

Next Steps and Timeline

Based on progress over the next two months, EPA plans to release a Draft 2 specification by mid-January. **A stakeholder meeting to discuss the Draft 2 has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2009 just prior to the North American Food Equipment Manufacturers (NAFEM) Show.** Meeting details are provided below:

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST

Location: Room S310A in the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC).

Interested parties can RSVP to Rebecca Duff, ICF International, at rduff@icfi.com.

Looking forward, EPA plans to release a Final Draft specification in March followed by a Final specification in April. This new timeline targets the National Restaurant Association (NRA) Show, May 16-19, 2009 for a launch of the ENERGY STAR Specification for Commercial Griddles. The specification effective date would coincide with the launch, which will allow manufacturers to promote their ENERGY STAR qualified models.

Draft 1 Data Now Available

In response to stakeholder request, EPA posted the data used to develop the Draft 1 proposed performance levels to the ENERGY STAR Web site at www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment (Click on New Specifications in Development). Comments received on the Draft 1 specification and discussion notes from the October 7th ENERGY STAR online meeting are also available on the commercial griddle Web page.

ENERGY STAR Contacts

Stakeholders with questions, concerns, or additional comments can contact Rachel Schmeltz, EPA, at (202) 343-9124 and via email at schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov or Rebecca Duff, ICF International, at (202) 862-1266 and via email at rduff@icfi.com.

Thank you for your participation in the ENERGY STAR development process.