July 30, 2019

Dear ENERGY STAR® Vending Machine Partner or Other Interested Party:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the Final Version 4.0 ENERGY STAR Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machine product specification. EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who have invested time and effort to contribute feedback that has informed this specification revision process.

The Version 4.0 requirements will become effective on April 29, 2020. Vending machine products certifying for ENERGY STAR under the Version 4.0 specification will use, on average, approximately 9% less energy than standard vending machine products. This specification establishes updated definitions, scope, and energy and low power mode requirements in alignment with and in response to the DOE federal minimum standard that came into effect on January 8, 2019. If all refrigerated beverage vending machines sold in the United States were ENERGY STAR certified, the energy cost savings would grow to nearly $7 million and more than 150 million pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented.

This specification was developed through a process that included release of two draft specifications and a final draft specification, along with multiple webinars, stakeholder meetings, and close engagement with stakeholders. No comments were received on the final draft specification. A minor change was made to the final specification to ensure consistency across ENERGY STAR product specifications and with DOE terminology such that ‘represented value’ is replaced with ‘certified rating’ and the unit sampling plan language defers to DOE’s sampling requirements. Stakeholder comments, previous drafts of the specification, and related materials are available on the product development website.

Timeline and Next Steps
EPA shares partners’ desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification to the next, so that consumers can expect ENERGY STAR labeled products to fully meet the latest requirements upon their effective date. With this in mind, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 4.0 requirements.
- As of December 16, 2019, CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to Version 3.1 and 3.2. Note, however, that existing certifications will remain valid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until April 29, 2020.
- Any vending machines manufactured as of April 29, 2020, must meet Version 4.0 requirements to bear the ENERGY STAR mark. All certifications of products to the Version 3.1 and 3.2 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification and the Product Finder will only include models certified to Version 4.0.

ENERGY STAR partnership as a manufacturer is limited to organizations that own and/or license a brand name under which they sell eligible products in the United States and/or Canada. Partnership is not available to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that do not sell directly to consumers or end users. OEMs may certify products on behalf of the ENERGY STAR brand owners/licensees; however, the brand
owner must be the ENERGY STAR partner associated directly with the certified product models, since only partners are authorized to use the ENERGY STAR certification mark.

EPA thanks stakeholders who provided feedback during the specification revision process and looks forward to working with you as you certify and market your energy efficient vending machines. Please direct any questions regarding the specification and its timeline to Tanja Crk at EPA, Crk.Tanja@epa.gov or (202) 566-1037. Please direct questions about the test procedure to Stephanie Johnson at DOE, Stephanie.Johnson@ee.doe.gov or (202) 287-1943. For any other vending machine related questions, please contact vendingmachines@energystar.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,

Tanja Crk
Tanja Crk, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR Commercial Food Service

Enclosures:
Final Version 4.0 ENERGY STAR Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machines Specification
Data Packet Version 4.0 Final