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



OFFICE OF AIR AND  
RADIATION

December 11, 2020

Dear ENERGY STAR® Water Cooler Brand Owner or Other Interested Party:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing the [Draft 2 Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Water Coolers Product Specification](#), along with the [Draft 1 comment response matrix](#) and a [revised data package](#). The deadline to provide comments on this Draft 2 specification is **January 22, 2021**.

#### Proposal Summary

EPA received multiple comments on the first draft of this specification and considered each of those comments carefully, incorporating changes into this draft as warranted. The changes proposed in the Draft 2 are summarized below. More details regarding these topics, EPA rationale, and specific requests for comment are included in note boxes throughout the draft specification as well as the Draft 1 comment response matrix.

- **Capacity Categories:** Commenters expressed concern about the proposed levels in Draft 1, namely that they would exclude large capacity water coolers that serve a large portion of the market in commercial spaces. EPA is requiring that all products report their cold water capacity, as measured by the ANSI/ASHRAE 18-2008 (RA 2013) test method. Units that provide hot water shall also report their hot water capacity per the same test method. EPA proposes categorizing all water cooler products as either “Low-Capacity” or “High-Capacity” based on these rated values. This information, along with the On Mode Performance (OMP) data that is reported under this specification, may be used to identify units that are more appropriate for placement in high-traffic areas such as a commercial office setting or lower use frequency areas such as in residences.
- **Certification Criteria:** Per the comments mentioned above, distinct On Mode with no water draw levels have been proposed for Low Capacity and High Capacity water coolers in the Hot and Cold and Hot, Cook, and Cold Conditioned Storage categories. The level for Low Capacity units has been reduced to 0.68 kWh/day, which represents approximately 26% of currently recognized ENERGY STAR products in this category. The level for High Capacity water coolers has been proposed at 0.80 kWh/day, which represents approximately 11% of currently recognized ENERGY STAR products within this category. EPA believes these levels recognize the best performing products within each market segment.

### Comment Submittal Process

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide written comments for EPA consideration to [watercoolers@energystar.gov](mailto:watercoolers@energystar.gov) by **January 22, 2021**. All comments to Draft 1 are posted and those for Draft 2 will be posted to the [ENERGY STAR Water Coolers Product Development website](#) unless the submitter requests otherwise.

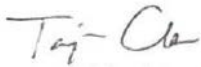
### Stakeholder Meeting

EPA plans to host a stakeholder webinar on **January 7, 2021 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM EST** to outline the Draft 2 specification and address initial stakeholder comments and questions. Stakeholders interested in participating in this discussion should [register at this link](#) by January 6, 2021.

Please direct any specific questions to Tanja Crk, EPA, at [Crk.Tanja@epa.gov](mailto:Crk.Tanja@epa.gov) or 202-566-1037, and Julia Hegarty, ICF, at [Julia.Hegarty@icf.com](mailto:Julia.Hegarty@icf.com) or 202-862-1163.

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

Sincerely,



Tanja Crk, Product Manager  
ENERGY STAR Commercial Food Service, Vending, Water Coolers

Enclosures:

[Draft 2 Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Water Cooler Specification](#)  
[Draft 2 Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Water Cooler Data Package](#)  
[Draft 1 Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Comment Response Matrix](#)

For more information, visit: [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

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