March 9, 2012

Dear ENERGY STAR® Commercial Oven Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requests your input on the attached Draft 1 Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Commercial Oven specification. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on this Draft 1 to EPA no later than April 6, 2012.

Overview of Draft 1 Proposal
The primary purpose of this revision is to expand the scope of the existing Version 1.1 specification to allow commercial combination ovens to qualify for ENERGY STAR. EPA is proposing to adopt the most recent version of the ASTM test method for commercial combination ovens (ASTM Standard F-2861-10 Standard Test Method for Enhanced Performance of Combination Oven in Various Modes). In developing this Draft 1 proposal, EPA considered feedback provided during the December 2011 ENERGY STAR stakeholder webinar and subsequent follow-up manufacturer discussions. Performance levels proposed in the Draft 1 are based on combination oven energy use data provided by PG&E’s Food Service Technology Center (FSTC) and other industry stakeholders. This revision process also provides EPA with an opportunity to revisit and clarify existing convection oven requirements.

Key elements of the Draft 1 proposal include:

- Expansion of the Product Family definition in Section 1 to clarify the allowable differences within any one product line for purposes of family qualification;
- Revisions to the Combination Oven definition in Section 1 to more closely align with the most recent version of ASTM Standard F-2861-10, Standard Test Method for Enhanced Performance of Combination Oven in Various Modes;
- Inclusion of new combination oven subtype definitions in Section 1, as based on the Fisher Nickel, Inc., Commercial Cooking Appliance Technology Assessment;
- Cooking-energy efficiency and idle energy rate requirements for combination ovens in steam and convection modes;
- Introduction of an Average Water Rate definition and metric for reporting purposes; and
- Clarification of the testing requirement in Section 4 that products with multiple voltage options shall be tested at the most energy consumptive voltage for qualification.

Other Oven Types
EPA continues to be interested in extending coverage to other types of commercial ovens defined in Section 1 of the Version 2.0 specification. Inclusion of these additional oven types will depend on stakeholder interest, test procedure availability, and access to a sufficient quantity of product energy use data.
Submittal of Written Comments
Stakeholders are encouraged to submit written comments on the Draft 1 Version 2.0 specification to commercialovens@energystar.gov by April 6, 2012. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development website unless the submitter requests otherwise.

To track EPA’s progress in revising the ENERGY STAR Commercial Oven specification, please visit the Product Development website at www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs (click on “Commercial Ovens”). All specification development materials, including data plots to support the Draft 1 proposal, will be posted to this webpage.

Next Steps
Following the Draft 1 comment period, EPA will host a stakeholder meeting during the National Restaurant Association (NRA) Show, May 5-8, 2012 to discuss the Version 2.0 specification. EPA will work toward releasing the Draft 2 version prior to the NRA Show but will use this meeting to discuss stakeholder feedback.

Thank you for taking the time to review this draft specification. Stakeholders with questions or concerns can contact me directly at (202) 862-1266 and via e-mail at kent.christopher@epa.gov or Adam Spitz, ICF International, at (202) 862-1226 and aspitz@icfi.com.

Sincerely,

Christopher Kent, U.S. EPA
ENERGY STAR Product Specification Development