



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

January 9, 2013

Dear ENERGY STAR® Water Cooler Partner or Other Interested Stakeholder,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share with you the attached Draft 2 ENERGY STAR Version 2.0 Water Cooler specification. EPA received input on Draft 1 which led to changes in the Draft 2 specification. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on the Draft 2 specification **by February 8, 2013**.

The following key changes are being proposed in this Draft 2 version:

- **Product Family Qualification:** A new Product Family definition is included allowing manufacturers to qualify additional models within a product line that differ only in aesthetics or other non-energy characteristics from the certified representative model. A clarification has also been added to Section 4 to clarify what is acceptable with regards to choosing a representative model for testing.
- **On Mode with Water Draw:** The placeholder for On Mode with Water Draw criteria in Table 1 has been removed. Requirements based on the On Mode Water Draw Performance (OMP) metric, as defined in the ENERGY STAR Test Method for Water Coolers (Rev. Sept-2012), will not be included in this Version 2.0 specification.
- **Effective Date:** EPA anticipates finalizing the Version 2.0 specification by March 2013 and projects an effective date of December 1, 2013.

In addition to discussion topics identified within the Draft 2 specification, EPA is seeking feedback in the following areas of stakeholder interest:

- **Energy use during the On Mode with No Water Draw Test vs. flow rate:** Some stakeholders commented that models that provide larger quantities of hot and cold water will use more energy during the On Mode with No Water Draw test. EPA welcomes written comments describing the physical mechanism(s) that associate water draw rates with test results for the On Mode with No Water Draw Test.
- **Energy use during the On Mode with No Water Draw Test vs. tank temperatures:** Some stakeholders commented that higher hot tank temperature settings and lower cold tank settings will result in more energy use during the On Mode with No Water Draw test. The ENERGY STAR Water Cooler Test Method requires testing at the "as-shipped" temperature settings. EPA welcomes comments and test data on how significant the impact of different temperature settings can be during a test. For example, what is the difference in test results for (1) a unit tested with a hot tank temperature setting that just meets the test procedure requirements vs. (2) the same unit set to the maximum hot tank temperature setting possible. If stakeholders believe the difference is substantial, EPA also welcomes suggestions on how test results could be used to account for differences in tank temperature settings during testing.
- **Bottom Loading Water Coolers:** EPA is in favor of creating a separate category for Bottom Loading Water Coolers under the Cold Only, Cook and Cold category with separate requirements

if data supports this change. A suggestion was made to set the level for this product category at 0.19 kWh/day. Stakeholders are encouraged to comment on this proposal and provide suggestions for an appropriate definition for inclusion in Section 1.

- **Allowance for Energy Saving Devices:** EPA continues to support energy saving devices but without documented energy savings associated with such features, determining an appropriate allowance is problematic. EPA encourages stakeholders to provide documented energy savings associated with the energy saving features of their water coolers to show a clear value to consumer in their usage. To date, EPA has received no data from stakeholders. EPA will not be able to support an allowance without this data.

Note boxes are provided throughout the Draft 2 document identifying specific changes made to the requirements and additional areas for further discussion. Stakeholders can submit comments on the Draft 2 proposal to watercoolers@energystar.gov. All written comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR website unless the submitter requests otherwise.

Schedule

Next steps in the development of the Version 2.0 specification are provided in the table below.

January 9, 2013	Distribution of Draft 2 Specification
February 8, 2013	Draft 2 Comment Period Closes
Late February 2013	Distribution of Final Draft Specification
March 2013	Final Draft Comment Period Closes
March 2013	Final Version 2.0 Specification Released
December 1, 2013	Version 2.0 Effective Date

Please direct any specification questions to Paul Karaffa, EPA, at karaffa.paul@epa.gov or (202) 343-9401 and Dave Beavers, CADMUS Group, at david.beavers@cadmusgroup.com or (617) 921-4871.

Questions regarding the ENERGY STAR Water Cooler Test Method (Rev. Sept-2012) can be directed to Bryan Berringer, DOE, at bryan.berringer@ee.doe.gov or (202) 586-0371.

Thank you for taking the time to review this Draft 2 proposal. EPA looks forward to working with you over the next few months to finalize the Version 2.0 specification.

Sincerely,



Paul Karaffa, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for Water Coolers