May 19, 2011

Dear ENERGY STAR® Commercial Ice Machine Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomes your input on the attached Draft 1 Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Automatic Commercial Ice Maker specification. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on this proposal to EPA no later than June 17, 2011. EPA will discuss the Draft 1 specification during the upcoming National Restaurant Association (NRA) Show on May 23, 2011. Details on this meeting are provided below.

Overview of Draft 1 Proposal

EPA’s primary focus for revisiting the existing Version 1.1 specification was to evaluate current performance levels for cube type machines and expand the scope of eligible products to flake and nugget machines. Based on analysis of the ENERGY STAR Qualified Product List, supplemented by non-qualified product listings found in the Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) Certified Products Directory, new energy and water consumption levels are being proposed across all machine types. EPA is also proposing minimum requirements for continuous type machines (i.e. flake and nugget).

The Draft 1 specification proposes an approach to binning products that is different than the existing Version 1.1 specification, but attempts to more closely represent product design and provides a smoother transition across capacities. Specifically, the Draft 1 uses a power curve to determine performance levels, negating the need to delineate the ice harvest rate bins currently used.

To harmonize with current industry standards, the definitions provided in Section 1 and test procedure listed in Section 4 have been updated based on AHRI 810-2007, Performance Rating of Automatic Commercial Ice-Makers. Please note that EPA intends to reference the appropriate U.S Department of Energy (DOE) test procedure, which is currently under development and will be based largely on AHRI 810-2007. DOE anticipates finalizing and publishing the test procedure in the Federal Register by Winter 2011.

More details regarding EPA’s analysis of the different machine types are provided in the attached Draft 1 specification.

Submittal of Written Comments

Stakeholders are encouraged to submit written comments on the Draft 1 Version 2.0 specification to icemachines@energystar.gov by June 17, 2011. All comments will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site unless the submitter requests otherwise.

To track EPA’s progress in revising the ENERGY STAR Automatic Commercial Ice Maker specification, visit the Product Development website at www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs. All specification development materials, including data plots to support the Draft 1 proposal, will be posted to this website.
ENERGY STAR Stakeholder Meeting at NRA
EPA will host a stakeholder meeting to discuss the Draft 1 specification on **Monday, May 23, 2011 from 1 pm – 3 pm in Room N228 at McCormick Place**. Stakeholders interested in attending the discussion should RSVP to icemachines@energystar.gov.

ENERGY STAR representatives will also be available to meet with stakeholders during the NRA Show May 21 - 23. Interested parties can contact Erica Porras, ICF International, at eporras@icfi.com to schedule a meeting.

Thank you for taking the time to review this draft specification. Stakeholders with questions or concerns can contact Christopher Kent, EPA, at kent.christopher@epa.gov or (202) 343-9046 and Erica Porras, ICF International, at (703) 225-2487 or eporras@icfi.com.

Sincerely,

Christopher Kent

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