



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

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

July 10, 2013

Dear ENERGY STAR® Vending Machine Manufacturer or Other Interested Party,

The purpose of this letter is to outline a clarification the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) intends to make to the eligible product definitions in the ENERGY STAR Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machine Version 3.0 Eligibility Criteria. This clarification is prompted by new information regarding vending machine definitions under federal regulations.

The current Version 3.0 specification expressly excludes combination vending machines (i.e., a refrigerated beverage vending machine that also has non-refrigerated volumes for purposes of vending other merchandise). The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has clarified that under federal regulations (42 U.S.C. § 6291(40) and 10 CFR § 431.292), this exclusion applies specifically to machines with distinct and separate compartments for beverages and other merchandise. All other machines capable of vending refrigerated bottled or canned beverages are covered by DOE regulation, including those that offer other merchandise in addition to beverages in the same compartment and those that offer multiple refrigerated configurations that can be chosen by the customer prior to placement. As described below, EPA is clarifying the ENERGY STAR definitions to better align with those used in federal regulations.

Based on a preliminary review of the vending machine market, it has come to the Agency's attention that certain products covered by the clarified DOE refrigerated beverage vending machine definition could use more energy when installed and operated as compared to the model's as-tested configuration. Consistent with the ENERGY STAR program's goal of testing products in their most consumptive configuration for the purpose of ENERGY STAR certification, these products will remain excluded from the ENERGY STAR specification. In particular, vending machines that offer operating temperatures below the 36 degrees F as stated in the DOE test procedure are not eligible for ENERGY STAR certification.

Recognizing that this opens the door to ENERGY STAR qualification of machines that vend products other than beverages, EPA understands the importance of considering snack machines more broadly for inclusion in the ENERGY STAR program. EPA expects to begin a stakeholder process to explore potential efficiency requirements and relevant test procedures for non-refrigerated vending machines later this year.

Clarification to Version 3.0

In making the described clarification, EPA proposes to add language to the existing definition and scope sections of the ENERGY STAR Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machine Version 3.0 specification as follows (additions reflected with italic text):

Definitions (Section 1):

A. Class A Machine: A refrigerated bottled or canned beverage vending machine that is fully cooled, and is not a combination vending machine.

B. Class B Machine: Any refrigerated bottled or canned beverage vending machine not considered to be Class A, and is not a combination vending machine.

C. Combination Machine: A refrigerated bottled or canned beverage vending machine that also has non-refrigerated volumes for the purpose of vending other, non-“sealed beverage” merchandise. *In this definition, “volume” refers to a separate, non-refrigerated compartment within the machine.*

Scope (Section 2):

2A. Included Products: Products that meet the definition of a Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machine as specified herein are eligible for ENERGY STAR qualification, *including those that vend other products in addition to beverages*, with the exception of products listed in Section 2B.

2B. Excluded Products (Section 2B):

- a) Combination Vending Machines, as defined in Section 1 above, are not eligible for ENERGY STAR.
- b) *Refrigerated beverage vending machines that offer operating temperatures that may be selected by the end user that are lower than the DOE test procedure rating condition (i.e., 36 degrees F) are not eligible for ENERGY STAR.*
- c) *Larger refreshment centers that include modular refrigerated vending compartments are not eligible for ENERGY STAR.*

EPA intends to finalize this clarification by September 30, 2013. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact me directly at (202) 343-9046 and kent.christopher@epa.gov or Rebecca Duff, ICF International, at (434) 202-7875 and rebecca.duff@icfi.com. Questions regarding applicability of the federal regulations, including test procedure questions, should be directed to DOE at refrigerated_beverage_vending_machines@ee.doe.gov.

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

Sincerely,



Christopher Kent
Product Manager, ENERGY STAR for Vending