



March 19, 2008

**PROJECT SCOPE & STAKEHOLDER INVITATION FOR PARTICIPATION: Revision of Environmental Standard for Reusable Bags (GS-16)**

The scoping phase of the Green Seal Environmental Standard for Reusable Bags Standard (GS-16) Revision has been completed. The standard is being developed to help consumers and purchasers identify environmentally-preferable products and services. The scoping process was intended to identify specific areas of the standard to be included. Comments were solicited on the scope of the standard revision from diverse stakeholders including producers, users and general interest groups. This document includes a summary of the comments received.

By participating in Green Seal's standard setting process, the following organizations played an important role in Green Seal's effort to encourage the design, manufacture and end use of environmentally superior products. Individuals may have also contributed, but their names are not listed for anonymity. Their assistance and involvement is greatly appreciated.

**Comments received from these organizations:**

Positively Inspired Creations, LLC  
Rojeti

**Comments (verbatim):**

Products in standard ("Scope")

The present standard addresses single-use bags as it pertains to mainly to grocery stores and retailers. An area generally overlooked is the hotel guest rooms and the single-use plastic laundry bag. These bags are removed from the rooms by the guests and disposed of outside of the hotel. Therefore, the bags are not counted as a waste for the hotel properties. A recent study revealed that in 2007, over 5.5 million single-use laundry bags were distributed by Las Vegas hotels.

Hotels originally provided a single-use plastic laundry bag for their 'in-house' laundry service. Hotels were surveyed to find that less than 8% of the guests use the 'in-house' laundry service provided by hotels. The plastic laundry bag provided normally ends up in the guest's suitcase and is disposed of at their final destination. When looking at waste generated by hotels, it was found that the single-use plastic laundry was never identified as a problem as hotels showed very little waste in this area.

In recent years, hotels have made great stives in 'greening up' the guest rooms with low-flow faucets, shampoo dispensers, cfl bulbs, and etc., but they have overlooked the single-use plastic laundry as a waste generater.

In the above content, the word 'hotel' is used to define hospitality properties to include hotels, motels, inns, resorts, cruise line state rooms, etc.

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Dye and coloring use

Will the standard be a natural dye vs a dye that is processed with harsh chemicals? Which would be considered green? And adding a logo to the already green bag sort of defeats the purpose of being green product.

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Consumer education and label requirements

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