



May 1 2008

PROJECT SCOPING & STAKEHOLDER INVITATION: Revision of Green Seal's Environmental Standards for Tissue Paper (GS-1) and Paper Towels and Paper Napkins (GS-9): GS-1 Sanitary Paper Products

Green Seal™ is inviting the participation of stakeholders to assist in the revision of existing environmental leadership standards for Tissue Paper (GS-1) and Paper Towels and Paper Napkins (GS-9) and combining them into one standard: *Sanitary Paper Products GS-1*. These standards are being revised to help consumers better identify and choose environmentally preferable sanitary paper products. To be included in the email list for this project that will include project updates and announcements, as well as enable your involvement in the standard development process and to submit comments during review periods, you need to register for the project, described below.

Scoping is the first phase of revising these two existing Green Seal standards. Scoping will identify areas to consider when researching and drafting a proposed revised standard. Scoping is meant to highlight issues to consider; *specific requirements have not been set*. The proposed standard will follow at a later date, after researching the items identified during scoping.

Green Seal is soliciting suggestions and comments during the scoping of this revision of the standards from the diverse stakeholders including, but not limited to paper manufacturers, paper converters, retail users and distributors, consumers, environmental organizations, and governmental agencies. Scoping comments (and registration to be included in the email list for this project) will be submitted through an online forum system. Once registered on the forum for this project, one can post contributions to the scoping phase of this project. All registered users will be able to view all the comments and the username of the commenter. Some topics are locked from replies since they are administrative (indicated with a lock symbol).

To register for the project and access the forum:

- Get on the following URL: <http://green-seal.org/standards>
- Register an account; for the username please use first initial and full last name (e.g., J Smith); select "GS-1 Sanitary Paper Product Project"; include your organization (this will not be viewable by other users); review the disclaimer information; click Register.
- You should receive a welcome email from the Green Seal Development Forum within one business day.

There will be a User Tips and a Help section available once you log in to the forum to help address questions on how to use the online forum as well as general guidelines and rules on posting comments and attachments. Green Seal has administrative rights to the forum to ensure proper use of the online forum.

Green Seal will also accept comments by email, fax and postal mail. Any comments received by postal mail, fax and email will be posted to the online forum and will be viewable by GS-1 registered forum participants by the name of the commenter. Please refer to specific sections (see below) on which you have comments and include copies of any supporting documentation and send your comments to:

Green Seal, Inc.
Attn: GS-01 Sanitary Paper Product Project
1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 827
Washington, DC 20036

Or by fax: (202) 872-4324 (please fax no more than 10 pages)
Or by e-mail: standards@greenseal.org with "GS-1 Sanitary Paper Product Project" in the subject header.

The scoping will be open for 7 weeks beginning May 1, 2008. Scoping comments must be received by **June 19, 2008**. No additional comments will be accepted for the scoping portion of this project after this date.

GS-1 scoping comments can fall under the following sections:

- Products included/excluded in Standard "Scope"
- Relevant definitions in standard
- Product performance requirements
- Virgin fiber source
- Recovered fiber and post-consumer fiber minimum percentages
- Bleaching and use of Chlorine
- Prohibited substances (e.g., dyes, anti-microbials, carcinogens, fragrances, etc.)
- Restrictions on air and water emissions
- Carbon Dioxide emissions (footprint, offsets)
- Consumption of water and energy (amount, type, re-use, etc.)
- New manufacturing technologies
- Packaging (sizes and materials)
- Consumer education and labeling
- End of Life Management (waste)
- Optional verification claims
- General comments

All comments received during scoping will be reviewed and carefully considered during the research and development phase of the project. While written responses to each comment may not be made, a commenter may be contacted during the research and development phase about their comments. A summary of the comments received will be posted on the Green Seal web site.

If you have any questions, please contact Green Seal at (202) 872-6400 or email standards@greenseal.org

By participating in the process of setting environmental standards, you play an important role in our efforts to encourage the design, manufacture, and use of environmentally responsible products and services. Thank you in advance for your participation.

We look forward to working with you on this project and receiving your comments during the scoping phase of the project.

Sincerely,

Ben Addlestone
Environmental Scientist

Cheryl Baldwin, Ph.D.
Vice President of Science and Standards