



March 7, 2008

PROJECT SCOPING & STAKEHOLDER INVITATION: New Green Seal Environmental Standard for Restaurants and Food Service Operations, GS-46

Green Seal is inviting the participation of stakeholders to assist in the development of a new environmental leadership standard on Restaurants and Food Service Operations, GS-46. This standard is being developed to help consumers identify and choose environmentally preferable away-from-home food providers. 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 the development of this new standard. This scoping step will identify areas to consider when researching and drafting a proposed new standard. The scope 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 in the scope.

Green Seal is soliciting suggestions and comments on the scope of this new standard from the diverse stakeholders including facility owners, operators, chefs, equipment and product manufacturers, and general interest groups. 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 scope. 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-46 Restaurants and Food Service Operations"; 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-46 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-46 Restaurants and Food Service Operations

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-46 Restaurants and Food Service Operations"

in the subject header.

The scoping will be open for 7 weeks beginning March 7, 2008. Scoping comments must be received by **April 25, 2008**. The forum will be closed for comments on April 25st and no additional comments will be accepted for the scoping portion of this project after this date.

All comments received on the scope 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.

GS-45 scoping comments will fall in the following sections:

- Scope (types of food service operations to include in the standard)
- Definitions (of terms to be used in the standard)
- Waste
- Water Emissions
- Air Emissions
- Recycling
- Composting
- Disposables
- Packaging
- Food
- Menu
- Equipment
- Refrigeration
- Cleaning
- Linen
- Pest Management
- Lighting
- Furnishings
- Building and Landscaping
- Procurement
- Food Safety
- Marketing and Education
- How to differentiate tiers for certification (criteria, mark/recognition)
- Cost of certification and evaluation
- General Comments

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 on the scope.

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