



## ANNOUNCEMENT FOR BALLOT ON THE DRAFT FINAL REVISION OF:

### Green Seal's Environmental Standard for Paints and Coatings (GS-11)

In order to reflect the environmental and technological improvements that have been achieved since the Environmental Standard for Paint (GS-11) and Anti-Corrosive Paints (GC-3) were first issued in the 1990's, Green Seal is revising these two environmental standards. As part of the revision, GC-3 for Anti-Corrosive Paints will be *incorporated* into the GS-11 Paints Standard. Any preliminary applications received for Green Seal certification under GS-11 or GC-3 during the revision process have been added to a waitlist and applicants will be sent a copy of the revised final standard once it is issued. After reviewing the new standard, applicants should resubmit a preliminary application.

Earlier this year, Green Seal released a Draft GS-11 Scoping Document for public comment. Comments received were reviewed and considered during the drafting of the proposed revised standard. The summary of comments is published on the Green Seal website. The proposed revised standard was then submitted for public comment. Interested parties that registered through the online forum during the public comment period of the proposed revised standard are eligible to vote as registered stakeholders. Comments were reviewed and considered during the drafting of the final revised standard. The comments on the proposed revisions and the accompanying responses are listed in the GS-11 Response to Comments document. Green Seal is herein proposing a draft of the final revised standard for ballot to registered stakeholders.

Registered stakeholders are to submit their vote through the Green Seal online forum through **January 3, 2008**. If multiple people have registered from the same organization or institution, Green Seal recommends that one stakeholder act as the representative and submits ONE vote as only one vote will be counted per organization or institution. If a "Negative" vote is being cast, Green Seal highly encourages that stakeholders post the reasons as explicitly and as detailed as possible in the comment section. In the case of sustained opposition, Green Seal will make reasonable attempts to rectify the concerns and will do so according to the comments posted in the online forum. The submitted vote may be changed by the stakeholder until the voting period closes.

In order to make allowances for adequate time for vote submissions over the holiday season, Green Seal has elected to extend the voting period until January 3, 2008. The issuance of the final revised standard will be delayed accordingly and the final timing of the standard will be dependent on the votes received.

In order to submit a vote, stakeholders must log in to the Green Seal online forum using the username and password created during registration. If stakeholders do not remember the password used during registration, there is an option for “Lost password” on the online forum. Please note that Green Seal does not have access to passwords.

**How to submit your vote through the Green Seal Development Forum:**

- **Click on the following URL:** <http://green-seal.org/standards>
- **Log in using your username and password**
- **Make selection: Affirmative, Negative (with comment), Abstain**
- **Click “Submit Vote”**
- **If submitting Negative (with comment), post comment below**

There will be User Tips and a Help section on how to use the online forum as well as general guidelines and rules on posting comments and attachments available once you log in. Once a vote is submitted, stakeholders will be able to view the results of prior votes. A submitted vote may be changed by the stakeholder until the voting period closes. If a “Negative” comment is being cast, Green Seal reiterates that the stakeholder post the reasons as explicitly and as detailed as possible in the comment section. Green Seal will take the posted comments into consideration to make any necessary edits to the standard. Green Seal reserves the administrative right to ensure proper use of the online forum.

Due to the nature of the voting process, registered stakeholders should submit their vote through the online forum. Votes received by postal mail, fax and email directly to Green Seal may not count towards the overall voting tally. Only for certain exception situations will Green Seal be able to submit a proxy vote for an organization or institution.

***The voting period will close January 3, 2008.  
Green Seal will no longer accept any votes past this date.***

If you have any questions regarding the revision process or for online forum assistance, please contact Green Seal at (202) 872-6400 or email [green Seal@green Seal.org](mailto:green Seal@green Seal.org) with “GS-11/GC-3 Online Forum” in the subject line.

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 receiving your votes.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Baldwin, Ph.D.  
Director of Science and Standards

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