



# **Standard Withdrawal Proposal**

**August 18, 2020**

**The following standards are proposed for withdrawal. This proposal summarizes Green Seal's rationale for the withdrawal of these standards.**

- **Standard for Windows (GS-13, Edition 2.1)**
- **Standard for Electric Chillers (GS-31, Edition 2.1)**
- **Standard for GS-54 Architectural Thermal Insulation (GS-54, Edition 1.1)**

## **Overview of Standard Withdrawal Process**

Green Seal maintains standards in conformance with best practices in standard development via Periodic Maintenance, as defined by ANSI's Essential Requirements for Standard Development.

Under the Period Maintenance approach, a standard is evaluated at least every five years for accuracy, relevance, and impact. If a maintenance evaluation confirms that the standard meets these criteria, then that standard remains active and available on Green Seal's website as the basis for certification of products or services. If a maintenance evaluation determines that the standard is no longer accurate, no longer relevant, or no longer impactful, Green Seal may opt to revise and improve the standard or withdraw the standard. In the case of withdrawal, Green Seal's process is the following:

**Public Notification:** Green Seal publishes a proposal that provides context and rationale for withdrawing a Green Seal standards.

**Public Comment Period:** Upon public notification, Green Seal announces an open a Public Comment Period for stakeholders to submit supportive comments, neutral or informative comments, or objections. Public Comment Periods may remain open for either 15 or 30 days depending on the level of stakeholder activity within the last five years.

### **Publish Stakeholder Comments**

Within 30 days of the close of a Public Comment Period, Green Seal publishes formally submitted stakeholder comments.

### **Publish a Final Decision on Standard Withdrawal**

Green Seal posts notification on Green Seal's website that a standard will be withdrawn, or, if there is strong stakeholder opposition to the proposed withdrawal, may post notification of a Standard Revision initiative. The Final Decision includes Green Seal's responses to all formally submitted stakeholder comments.

### **Withdraw Standard**

A withdrawn standard and its standard development documents remain on Green Seal's website within the Standards Documents Library for at least five years after the withdrawal date. Products and services cannot apply for certification to a withdrawn standard. Records of withdrawn standards can be beneficial for educational purposes for product designers and for higher education sustainability courses and research.

## **Rationale for Proposed Standard Withdrawals, Herein**

Since 1989, Green Seal has established a reputation for market impact and expertise in formulated products, materials, and services associated with cleaning and facilities care. In particular, our flagship standards target reducing the waste and health and environmental impacts associated with consumable goods. However, over the past three decades, Green Seal has also developed standards for products peripheral to this core scope of work – for example, building equipment and construction materials.

Green Seal continues to identify a significant need for market transformation that results in safer, healthier cleaning and facilities care products. To maximize our impact in this area, Green Seal is redoubling our focus and sunsetting standards outside of this core scope. Therefore, Green Seal is withdrawing the following three energy efficiency standards for construction materials and building equipment:

- Standard for Windows (GS-13)
- Standard for Electric Chillers (GS-31)
- Standard for Architectural Thermal Insulation (GS-54)

This action will provide greater clarity for our stakeholders and allow Green Seal to enhance resources for transforming our priority markets. Green Seal remains committed to designing energy efficiency challenges within our standards for cleaning and facilities care markets, and to promoting and referencing high-impact energy efficiency labels such as Energy Star and EPEAT for standards outside of our core scope.

### **Public Comment Period**

**Green Seal is accepting comments from August 18 to September 1, 2020.**

We encourage all stakeholders and members of the public to submit feedback including supportive comments, additional information, or objections.

### **Instructions for Submitting Comments**

Submit comments on this proposal via email to [standards@greenseal.org](mailto:standards@greenseal.org).

### **Questions on Green Seal Standard Development**

Contact Green Seal Standards Manager Brie Welzer at [bwelzer@greenseal.org](mailto:bwelzer@greenseal.org).

## **Rationale for Proposed Withdrawal GS-13, Windows**

### **Withdrawal of GS-13, Overview**

Windows and doors are commonly categorized as construction materials and building equipment. This category is now outside of Green Seal's core focus of work which encompasses products, supplies, tools, and services for cleaning and facility care. Green Seal proposes to withdraw the GS-31 Standard for Windows and to further promote the existing environmental preferability program US EPA's EnergyStar in place of GS-13.

### **Summary of Standard**

GS-13 covers the following requirement categories: Performance Requirements, U-Value, Air Leakage, Product Frame and Sash Material, Packaging Requirements, Consumer Education Materials, Labeling Requirements,

### **Product Types Covered by GS-13**

Awning windows • Casement windows • Double-hung windows • Fiberglass doors • Fiberglass windows • Glazed exterior doors (residential) • Patio doors • Skylights • Sliding doors • Sliding windows • Storm doors • Vinyl doors • Vinyl windows • Windows • Wood-framed doors • Wood-framed windows • Residential fenestration products

### **Products Certified to GS-13**

As of the date of this proposal, there are no products certified to this standard.

## **Rationale for Proposed Withdrawal Standard for Electric Chillers (GS-31)**

### **Withdrawal of GS 31, Overview**

Electric chillers are categorized by Green Seal as Building Equipment. This category is now outside of Green Seal's core focus of work which includes cleaning, facility care, hand hygiene, and foodservice products. This product category includes important environmental opportunities for impact reduction with the most significant being energy efficiency. Therefore, Green Seal recommends existing environmental preferability programs including the US Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP).

### **Summary of Standard**

GS-31 covers the following requirement categories: Leak Testing, Refrigerant Release, Acceptable Refrigerants, Energy Efficiency Requirements, Operating Noise Limitations.

### **Product Types Covered by GS-31**

- 60Hz, 3-phase, electric motor driven, vapor compression-type water-chilling systems
- Water-chilling systems with a cooling capacity between 150 tons and 20,000 tons

### **Standard Activity Over the Last Five Years**

As of the withdrawal of this standard, there is one products are certified to this standard.

## **Rationale for Proposed Withdrawal Architectural Thermal Insulation (GS-54)**

### **Withdrawal of GS-54, Overview**

Architectural thermal insulation is categorized by Green Seal as construction materials. This category is now outside of Green Seal's core focus of work which includes cleaning, facility care, hand hygiene, and foodservice products. This product category includes important environmental opportunities for impact reduction with the most significant being the energy efficiency benefits for buildings, conveyed by the "R-Value." Therefore, Green Seal recommends existing environmental preferability programs including the US EPA's EnergyStar.

### **Summary of Standard**

GS-54 covers the following requirement categories: Industry standard specifications, Fire safety, Functional Claims, Alternative Performance Requirements, Recovered Content, Global Warming Potential, Ozone Depletion Potential, Volatile Organic Compounds, Bleaching, Prohibited and Restricted Substances, Plastic Packaging, Paper and Cardboard Packaging, Heavy Metal Restrictions on Packaging, Consumer Information and Labeling Requirements.

### **Products and Materials Covered by GS-54**

Batts and Blankets • Rolls • Boards • Blown-in / Loose fill • Spray foam • Rigid foam • Low-density foams • Rigid fiber • Reflective Insulation • Fiberglass and glass wool • Rock wool • Other mineral wool • Expanded polystyrene • Extruded polystyrene • Polyisocyanurate foam (PIR) • Polyurethane (open or closed cell) • Cotton and denim • Paper • Wood • Other cellulose materials • Animal wool • Vermiculite • Perlite

### **Standard Activity Over the Last Five Years**

This standard was issued in 2016. As of the date of this proposal, there are no products certified to this standard.