

**SENATE SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMMITTEE  
HEARING REGARDING  
CLIMATE CHANGE/GLOBAL WARMING  
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**Testimony of Daniel Horowitz  
Assistant Administrator for the Office of Policy**

Good morning Chairman Kerry, Ranking Member Snowe and distinguished members of the Committee. Thank you for inviting the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to provide remarks related to the Energy Policy Act of 2005 which calls for SBA and other Federal agencies to provide information on the benefits of becoming more energy efficient to America's small businesses and entrepreneurs. SBA appreciates the opportunity to update the Committee on its efforts along with our federal agency partners to inform small businesses on the benefits and opportunities for becoming, promoting and developing products for energy efficiency.

I am Daniel Horowitz, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Policy appearing on behalf of Administrator Preston.

Under President Bush's leadership, America is changing how it generates electricity by investing in clean-coal technology, wind and solar power, and clean, safe nuclear power. Since 2001, the Federal Government has invested more than \$12 Billion to develop cleaner, cheaper, and more reliable energy sources. This Administration is also increasing funding for research and development into alternatives to oil and gasoline, including advanced batteries for plug-in and hybrid cars, biodiesel fuels, and hydrogen fuel cells. New technologies like these have the potential to provide reliable energy at competitive prices.

The Department of Energy (DoE), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Commerce (DoC), and SBA have made progress in developing a government-wide program building on the Energy Star Small Business Program. The goals of the program

are: 1) to assist small business in becoming more energy efficient; 2) to sell their ENERGY STAR qualifying products to the federal government; 3) to identify financing options for energy efficiency upgrades; and 4) to establish a “Small Business Energy Clearinghouse” with the technical information and advice necessary to help increase energy efficiency and reduce energy costs.

The ENERGY STAR Small Business Program, managed by EPA and DOE, has been positioned as a clearinghouse for information related to energy efficiency that might be needed by small businesses. Small businesses have access to a wealth of information on a wide variety of topics related to energy efficiency through the ENERGY STAR Small Business Program. In particular, the website offers information on eligibility for Federal tax credits and a directory of energy efficiency programs so that small businesses can learn about utility-sponsored programs and available rebates for energy efficiency products.

The Clearinghouse, when complete, will be accessible through the SBA’s Website with links and content provided by EPA, DOE and the Department of Commerce. However already in 2006, Americans with the help of ENERGY STAR, saved \$14 billion on their energy bills and at the same time reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition to ENERGY STAR, SBA and EPA worked together to reach out to small trucking companies with financial assistance to encourage the capital investment of fuel efficient products. On November 14, 2006, SBA began making loans available to help small trucking companies finance the purchase of SmartWay Upgrade Kits. The kits include products that will save the small firms money in reduced fuel costs while helping the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The SBA will also distribute information on energy efficiency issues through its existing distribution network including Small Business Development Centers, Women’s Business Centers and SCORE chapters along with other Federal agencies including Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Agriculture and Department of

Commerce (DoC). Federal agencies will also have access to such information via the Clearinghouse.

The EPA will handle telephone requests from small businesses for information through its ENERGY STAR hotline which is 888-STAR-YES.

This program will enhance the Administration's support of America's entrepreneurs by helping them reduce their energy costs thereby allowing them to grow their businesses and bring more jobs to the Nation's economy.

Thank you again for the chance to discuss the role of SBA in information distribution to small businesses regarding energy efficiency with the Committee. I will be pleased to answer any questions you might have.

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