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**ECO-FRIENDLY STATE PURCHASING SPECIFICATIONS  
POSTED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Leveraging Purchasing Power to Boost Environmentally Sound Products

Office of General Services (OGS) Commissioner John C. Egan and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Pete Grannis, co-chairs of an interagency committee created by Governor David A. Paterson to implement green procurement initiatives under Executive Order 4, today announced purchasing specifications that will help state agencies, public authorities and public benefit corporations purchase greener products and services.

On May 4, the committee tentatively approved new specifications to help guide purchases of compact fluorescent lamps, low-volatile organic compound (VOC) pavement marking paint, and environmentally friendly single-use food containers and utensils.

These new specifications are subject to public review and comment and can be viewed in their entirety on the OGS website at <http://www.ogs.state.ny.us/EO/4/ApprovedSpecs.asp> and the DEC website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/45591.html>.

"The purchasing power of New York State sets the stage for large-scale use of environmentally friendly products by government agencies, school districts and municipalities," Commissioner Egan said. "Establishing purchasing specifications for green products will make it much easier to know what to buy and feel confident about it. The more we can help government buyers understand the environmental and cost-benefits of these products, the more likely they will be to purchase and use them."

"Businesses are making it easier for consumers to buy products and services that are both eco-friendly and cost-efficient, and New York is leading by example in using its buying power to create a better work environment," Commissioner Grannis said. "This initiative will provide long-term benefits by reducing the use of toxic materials, saving energy and saving taxpayers' money."

In April 2008, Governor David A. Paterson signed [Executive Order No. 4](#), which established a state Green Procurement and Agency Sustainability Program. The order requires state agencies, public authorities and public benefit corporations to *green* their procurements and to implement sustainability initiatives. To accomplish this, an interagency committee has identified an annual list of categories and products for environmentally-conscious purchasing, planning and contracting.

To comment on the latest specifications, or for more information send an email to: [GreenEO4@ogs.state.ny.us](mailto:GreenEO4@ogs.state.ny.us).

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