

# **Draft Specification for ‘Refrigerant Containing Equipment’**

**April 2021**

## **Background**

Leaked refrigerants are estimated to currently make up roughly 5% of New York State’s greenhouse gas emissions, a percentage that may increase as other sources of emissions decline. Refrigerants can be potent greenhouse gasses, with ones now commonly in use having a global warming potential (how much heat they trap in the atmosphere compared to carbon dioxide) of over 1,000. In order to meet the State’s ambitious climate goals, the impact of leaked refrigerants will need to decrease, and this specification will allow State government to lead by example. Refrigerants are found mainly in three types of equipment used by State agencies: custom installed equipment that uses refrigerants (chillers, heat pumps, etc.), small sealed equipment that uses refrigerants (refrigerators, coolers, etc.), and in vehicle air conditioning units. This specification will reduce the impact of refrigerants found in custom installed equipment and small sealed equipment that use refrigerants by ensuring that agencies are properly conducting routine checks for leaks and ensuring that an evaluation is done to ensure that agencies are purchasing new equipment that uses the lowest GWP refrigerant that meets the equipment’s necessary form, function, and utility.