Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS) National Procedures Manual (Belize)

Belize Bureau of Standards

ACRONYMS

ANSI	American National Standards Institute
BBS	Belize Bureau of Standards
BMZ	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
CEC	California Energy Commission
CFL	Compact Fluorescent Lamp
CROSQ	CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality
EE	Energy Efficiency
EELS	Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme
GSDS	Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
LED	Light-Emitting Diode
MEPS	Minimum Energy Performance Standards
MPSEPU	Ministry of Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities
NRCAN	Natural Resources Canada
NSES	National Sustainable Energy Strategy
PTB	Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt
R3E	Renewal Energy and Energy Efficiency
RTF	Regional Testing Facilities
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SKU	Stock Keeping Units
US DOE	United States Department of Environment

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Within the context of Belize's Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (GSDS), Energy Efficiency (EE) remains one of several critical success factors in achieving the government's overall Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With the National Energy Policy Framework retrospectively rooted in 2012, and its National Sustainable Energy Strategy (NSES) projected through to 2033, the Ministry of Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities remains steadfast in executing a Strategic Plan that seeks to support and develop a number of programs and activities on non-renewable and renewable energy resources to improve EE and conservation in Belize. To date, several energy efficient initiatives and measures have been embarked upon, to curb high energy costs, ensure environmental quality and resiliency towards mounting pressures due to climate change. All embracing, the strategy features the importance of creating a national culture for energy efficiency, one deeply seated in technological adaptation and innovation to support the green economy.

1.2 In complementary fashion, standards and quality becomes critical to the NSES and as a first step, the national support given to the regional standards development process has led to the introduction and adoption of three key regional standards. These include Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for light bulbs, refrigerators, and air conditioners. As a measure of effective implementation is the pursuit of a voluntary Regional Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS) for Member States to consider. In this regard, Belize is one of four pilot countries for the implementation of the EELS. This initiative a spinoff from a previously funded project through the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ), administered and sub-executed by the German National Metrology Institute (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt - PTB) and the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) under title "Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Project (R3E)".

1.3 This EELS is envisioned at the outset to implemented through a voluntary Product Registration System. In this regard, participating importers will apply to the Belize Bureau of Standards (BBS) to register specific products under the program specific to refrigerators, air conditioners and light bulbs (CFLs and LEDs). Requirements fulfilled, products will be registered by the BBS and labels issued for each consignment imported. For purposes of trade facilitation and ensuring efficiencies in processing times, this manual understudies customs and other related processes to bring seamless order in the management of consignments.

The proposed process flow to administer the program is illustrated at ANNEX 1

2.0 - PROCESS FLOW AND/OR MAPPING

STEP 1: PRODUCT DECLARATION

2.1 This stage is designed to provide the BBS and participating importers with an opportunity to exchange information and conduct a status check. At this point, importers are invited to provide the BBS with a full list of all Stock Keeping Units (SKU) in their portfolio for the three (3) product classes. The details provided may vary by company based on their product line. This will include some core elements which are usually provided as laid out in Tables 1, 2 and 3 below:

TABLE 1:

REFRIGERATOR	
ITEM #	**DETAILS**
1	BRAND
2	MODEL
3	SIZE
4	COUNTRY OF MANUFACTURE
5	DIVISION
6	SKU
7	CLASS (example: large whites, small appliances)
8	ENERGY CONSUMPTION (If available)

TABLE 2:

LIGHTING	
ITEM #	**DETAILS**
1	BRAND
2	MODEL
3	SUB BRAND
4	VOLTS
5	AVERAGE RATE LIFE
6	WATTS
7	TYPE
8	LUMENS/LUX
9	UNITS PER PACK

TABLE 3:

AIR CONDITIONING	
ITEM #	**DETAILS**
1	BRAND
2	MODEL
3	SUB BRAND
4	TYPE
5	CATEGORY (EG. MINI SPLIT)
6	INSIDE MODEL #
7	OUTSIDE MODEL #
8	SEER

2.2 Once the product line has been declared, BBS personnel shall conduct searches in publicly available databases of recognized programs to determine if the specific product is registered in another jurisdiction. The primary programs which will be examined are as follows: The CROSQ Database, the US DOE, US Energy Stat, NRCAN, CEC and ANCE-Mexico. Once the research has been completed, a report of the findings will be generated and shared with the importer. Based on the reports, the importer may contact his suppliers or manufacturer and share the parameters and requirements in the Regional Standard. The company may then furnish the BBS with test reports of product certification documents from accredited entities or one of the Regional Testing Facilities (RTF) to provide additional information on the performance of their products.

3.0 - STEP 2
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AND EQUIVALENCE

3.1 This is the second step in the operationalization of the labelling scheme. The importer shall apply to the BBS to have portfolio of product lines formally registered with the BBS as per the prescribed form. (ANNEX 2)

3.2 Upon receipt of the application and other relevant documents, BBS personnel shall review the submission and vet the application. In conducting the vetting, the BBS will (assess/evaluate) the following:

1. Completion of information submitted and relevant forms.
2. Declared EE performance of the product under review.
3. Certificate of Compliance – applicable where a certification document is submitted for compliance with a scheme outside the jurisdiction, the parameters and requirements of that scheme.
4. Verify that the product is duly registered under that scheme.
5. Verify test reports - Where separate test reports are submitted, verify that the laboratory issuing the test results is accredited (ISO/IEC 17025) by a recognized body.
6. Review the test results to determine whether the requirements of the relevant standard are met and the rating applicable to the product.

4.0 - PRODUCT PERFORMANCE EQUIVALENT TO REGIONAL STANDARD AND REGISTRATION

4.1 Where a product is registered under a program which has parameters/requirements which meets or exceeds the requirements of the relevant Regional Standard, that product will be deemed to be equivalent. This indicates that the product may be allowed on the domestic market by virtue of it satisfying the requirements of the relevant standard. A product may also be deemed to meet the requirements through the submission and evaluation of test reports from an accredited testing laboratory or one (1) of the RTF.

4.2 Having met the requirements in 4.1, the importers, wholesalers or distributors may have these products registered as compliant products. The registered items will be entered in the BBS database and a Unique Registration Code (URC) issued for the item. Registration will be subject to the payment of the prescribed fees.

4.3 Where an item is deemed to not meet the requirements for registration on the basis of certification/documentation provided, registration shall be declined. The applicant shall be given the opportunity to provide additional documentation to support their application. They may also arrange to have a sample tested at a RTC to determine performance. If the additional documentation establishes that the product meets the requirements, the product shall be registered and an URC issued. If the product does not meet the requirements based on additional submissions or reports from a laboratory, registration shall not be allowed entry into the domestic market.

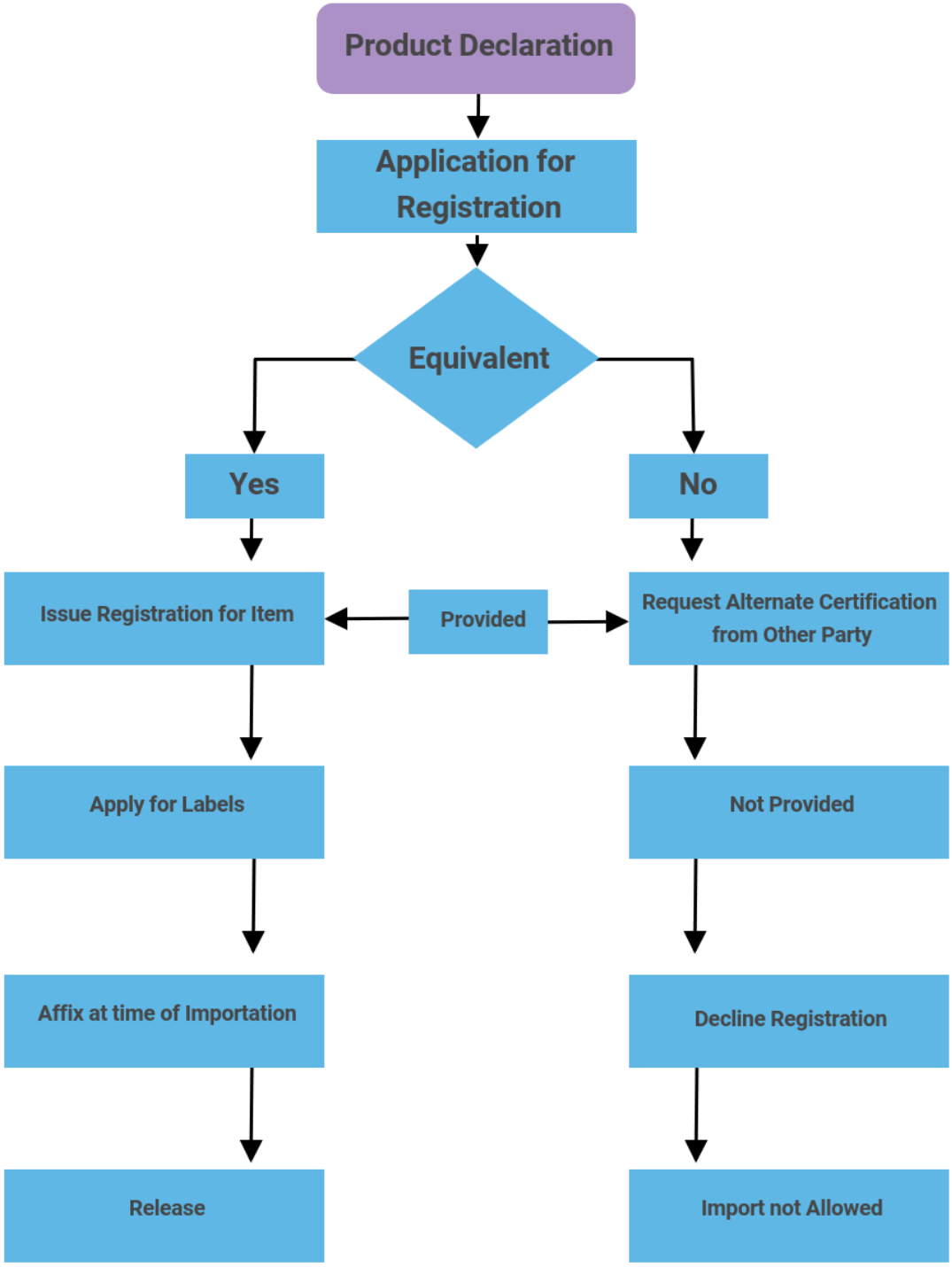
5.0 - DECLINING REGISTRATION AND IMPORT REFUSAL

5.1 Where an applicant fails to establish that a product meets the requirements of a relevant standard by virtue of certification to an equivalent scheme or through the provision of relevant test reports, registration for that item shall be declined. The applicant shall be notified of this decision within two (2) business days of the determination being made. The applicant shall further be advised that the product will not be allowed with an accompanying technical basis/explanation for the decision including the specific requirement(s) which were not met.

6.0 - APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF LABELS

6.1 Importers should notify the BBS of pending shipments as soon as shipping arrangements are finalized, and invoices issued. The importer shall apply to the BBS for labels indicating registration numbers for all items on the shipments and the original receipts from a Government Treasury. The Sub Office (Belize City) shall receive all applications and vet each submission. The Sub Office shall verify that the specific products on the application are duly registered and subsequently submit the application to the BBS Headquarters in the City of Belmopan for issuance. Issued labels and relevant approval letters shall be collected by Belize City personnel and logistical arrangements shall be made with the office of the Chief Examiner and Appointer Representative or Broker for and on behalf of the importer.

ANNEX 1:
PROCESS FLOW



ANNEX 2:
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION

Belize Bureau of Standards

BELIZE ENERGY EFFICIENCY LABELLING SCHEME
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF PRODUCT

SECTION A: COMPANY'S INFORMATION

1. Name: _____
2. Address: _____
3. Tax Identification Number (TIN #): _____
4. Owner/Operator/Manager: _____
5. Category: Importer ☐ Brand Representative ☐ Wholesaler ☐
6. Product Classification: Lighting ☐ Refrigerator ☐ AC ☐
7. Product Type: Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Residential ☐

SECTION B: PRODUCT DETAILS (Complete the section relevant to your product classification.)

PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION: REFRIGERATORS		
ITEM #	**DETAIL**	**INFORMATION RELEVANT TO PRODUCT**
1	BRAND	
2	MODEL	
3	SIZE	
4	COUNTRY OF MANUFACTURE	
5	DIVISION	
6	SKU	
7	CLASS (example: large whites, small appliances)	
8	ENERGY CONSUMPTION (If available)	

PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION: LIGHTING		
ITEM #	**DETAIL**	**INFORMATION RELEVANT TO PRODUCT**
1	BRAND	
2	MODEL	
3	SUB BRAND	
4	VOLTS	
5	AVERAGE RATE LIFE	
6	WATTS	
7	TYPE	
8	LUMENS/LUX	
9	UNITS PER PACK	

PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION: AIR CONDITIONING		
ITEM #	**DETAIL**	**INFORMATION RELEVANT TO PRODUCT**
1	BRAND	
2	MODEL	
3	SUB BRAND	
4	TYPE	
5	CATEGORY (EG. MINI SPLIT)	
6	INSIDE MODEL #	
7	OUTSIDE MODEL #	
8	SEER	

SECTION C: TEST REPORTS AND CERTIFICATIONS

a. Item 1:

_____

_____

b. Item 2:

_____

_____

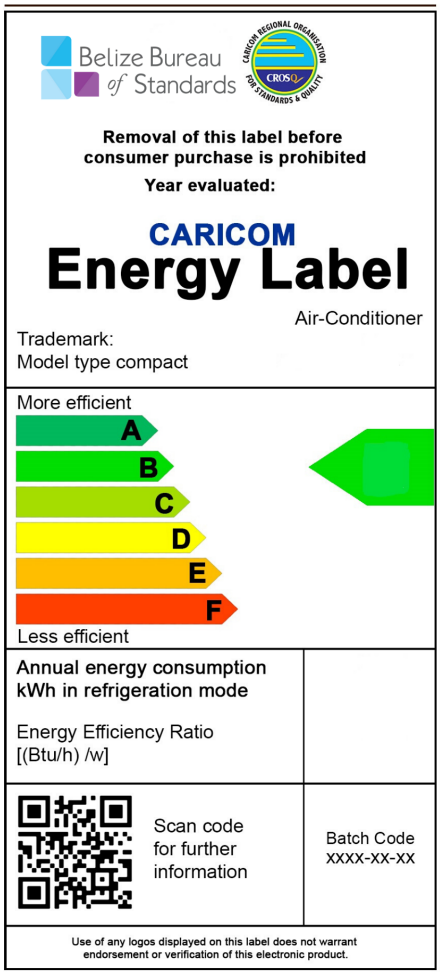
c. Item 3:

_____

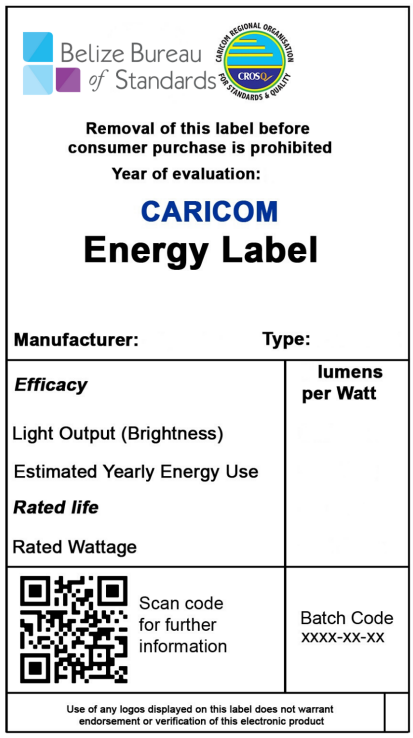
_____

ANNEX 3:
Sample of Labels

Energy Efficiency Label : Air Conditioners



Energy Efficiency Label : LEDs & CFLs Light Bulbs



Energy Efficiency Label : Refrigerators