

The 2015 Wood Heater Rule: Manufacturers

How manufacturers can comply with the 2015 Wood Heater Rule

This fact sheet gives an overview of the requirements of those manufacturing wood heaters. Please review the rule closely to ensure your device complies with the applicable standard. Additional information is available on the [EPA website](#).

Only U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-certified units can be sold

Starting May 16, 2017, it is illegal to manufacture, advertise, distribute, install and/or sell any wood heater not certified to the 2015 Wood Heater Rule Step 1 performance standards or any improperly labeled appliance. All sell-through periods have expired. Starting May 16, 2020, the Step 2 emission limits will need to be met. Appliance-specific Step 1 and Step 2 emission limits and compliance dates are available on the [EPA website](#) and the [accompanying fact sheet](#).

Certification testing and related requirements

Manufacturers must participate in a certification program that tests one representative heater per model line, rather than testing every heater. If the representative heater meets the current particulate matter emission limits, and the other certification requirements, the entire model line may be certified.

Individual heaters within the model line are still subject to all other requirements, including labeling and operational requirements. Other certification criteria include testing and reporting the wood heater efficiency and carbon monoxide emissions. The certification test must document the burn rate for the low burn category. The low burn rate category used for the certification test cannot be greater than the rate an operator can achieve in home use nor greater than is advertised by the manufacturer or retailer.

Certification test reports must be posted for the public on manufacturer's websites

Within 30 days of receiving a certification of compliance for a model line, the manufacturer must make the complete non-confidential business information test report and the summary of the test report available to the public on the manufacturer's website (§60.537(g) and §60.5479(g)).

Certification revocation

If a model line's label, owner's manual or associated marketing information does not comply with the requirements of §60.5478 for central heaters or §60.536 for room heaters, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) can revoke the certification. If the EPA denies a manufacturer's request for a renewal of certification for a model line, retailers must not sell the previously certified heaters after the expiration date of the certificate of compliance.

Labeling requirements

Individual heaters within the certified model line are subject to labeling and other requirements. All individual heaters traveling through the distribution system must have the EPA approved permanent label affixed. The permanent label requirements for room heaters (subpart AAA) are in §60.536 (a through e) and for central heaters (subpart QQQQ) are in §60.5478 (a through d).

As described in Appendix I (3), manufacturers with models certified to the Step 2 (2020) performance standards before May 15, 2020, and those certified to the Step 2 (2020) standards by testing with cordwood, may highlight these models by displaying them with a temporary hangtag.

Voiding warranties

Warranties for certified wood heaters must state they are void if the unit is used to burn materials for which the unit is not certified by the EPA and void if not operated according to the owner's manual §60.533(b)(6) and §60.5475(b)(6).

Quality assurance program and third party audits

Because only one representative heater is tested for certification, manufacturers are required to have quality assurance (QA) programs to ensure that all heaters within the model line conform to the certified design and meet the applicable emission limits. Third-party certifiers are required to conduct at least annual audit inspections of the manufacturer's QA program.

Biennial reports

The 2015 Wood Heater New Source Performance Standards rule requires manufacturers to submit a report to the EPA every two years for each model line. This notification must include the following:

- Certification that no changes in the design or manufacture of the model line have been made that would require recertification under §60.533(k) or §60.5475(k).
- Sales information for the two-year period by state for each model line certified. See §60.537(d) or §60.5479(d).