



February 10, 2015

Subject: Finalized Regulations – 18 AAC 50.077 Standards for Wood-Fired Heating Devices

Dear Solid-Fuel Heating Device Vendor:

This letter is to notify you that new emission standards have been finalized that will affect your business. On January 29, 2014, the Lieutenant Governor filed regulation changes within 18 AAC 50 pertaining to wood-fired heating device emission standards for wood-fired heaters inside the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) PM_{2.5} Nonattainment Area. The majority of these regulations will be effective February 28, 2015. For your convenience, a copy of the finalized regulations is enclosed.

Vendors both inside and outside the nonattainment area are affected by 18 AAC 50.077 – Standards for Wood-Fired Heating Devices. The regulation makes it unlawful to sell certain types of heating devices to customers that intend to install and operate the device inside the boundaries of the FNSB PM_{2.5} Nonattainment Area.

Beginning **February 28, 2015**, Wood-Fired Hydronic Heaters <350,000 Btu/hr and Wood-Fired Heaters >350,000 Btu/hr cannot be sold for installation within the nonattainment area unless they meet new state emission standards. See the attached table of state emission standards for details.

Beginning **August 31, 2015**, Woodstoves and most Pellet Stoves (see the attached definitions of “woodstove” in 18 AAC 50.990(140) and “wood heater” in 40 C.F.R. 60.531) <350,000 Btu/hr cannot be sold for installation within the nonattainment area unless they meet new state emission standards. See the attached table of state emission standards for details.

Vendors both inside and outside the nonattainment area may only sell devices that do not meet the new state emission standards to customers who verify in writing that the device will be installed outside of the nonattainment area.

The PM_{2.5} emission standards for new wood heaters are intended to assist the FNSB in meeting the fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) ambient air quality standards. The greatest contributor to PM_{2.5} emissions within the FNSB is wood smoke.

The department did receive a number of comments regarding these regulations during the public review process. The Department's response to comments may be found at:
http://dec.alaska.gov/air/anpms/comm/docs/fbxSIPpm2-5/2013_PM25_Response_to_Comments.pdf

These regulations do not apply to coal-fired heating devices.

DEC maintains current lists of compliant wood-fired hydronic heaters, pellet stoves, and woodstoves online at <http://burnwise.alaska.gov/>

Please be aware that EPA recently released New Source Performance Standards for wood-fired heating devices that will affect what devices are lawful to sell statewide outside of the nonattainment area. See the attached table of EPA emission standards for more information. Beginning January 1, 2016 it will be unlawful to sell devices that do not meet the EPA emission standards in the NSPS. Details about the NSPS are available online at:
<http://www2.epa.gov/residential-wood-heaters/final-new-source-performance-standards-residential-wood-heaters>

For those vendors in and around the FNSB PM2.5 Nonattainment Area, DEC staff will be either calling or visiting toward the end of February to review requirements. If you have any questions about these new emission standards please contact Alex Edwards in the Anchorage office at 907-269-7695 or alex.edwards@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,



Cynthia L. Heil, Program Manager
Air Non-Point and Mobile Sources

Enclosures: Finalized Regulation Changes to 18 AAC 50 Air Quality Control
Comparison of EPA Woodstove NSPS and New Alaska Emission Standards
FNSB PM2.5 Nonattainment Area Boundary Map
40 C.F.R. 60.531 Definition of "Wood Heater" referenced in 18 AAC 50.990(140)