



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY  
Air Non-Point & Mobile Sources

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December 16, 2019

Subject: Finalized Regulations – 18 AAC 50.077, 18 AAC 50.079 Standards for Wood-Fired Heating Devices and Coal-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 December 9, 2019, the Lieutenant Governor filed regulations making changes within 18 AAC 50 pertaining to solid fuel-fired heating device emission standards for solid fuel fired heaters inside the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) nonattainment area as well a number of additional requirements. The majority of these regulations will be effective January 8, 2020. Several web pages have been developed to provide you information on the regulations. A brief synopsis of the changes is also provided below and we encourage you to visit the listed web pages to learn more.

Vendors both inside and outside the nonattainment area are affected by 18 AAC 50.077 – Standards for Wood-Fired Heating Devices and 18 AAC 50.079 – Provisions for coal-fired heating devices. These regulations make 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<sub>2.5</sub> Nonattainment Area.

Beginning **January 8, 2020**

- Cordwood-Fired Hydronic Heaters <350,000 Btu/hr cannot be sold for installation within the nonattainment area.
- Coal-Fired devices cannot be sold for installation within the nonattainment area
- Wood stoves, pellet stoves and inserts may be installed only if they have an EPA certified emission rate of 2.0 grams per hour or less **AND** are included on ADEC's list of approved devices.
- Pellet Hydronic heaters may be installed only if they have an EPA certified emission rate of 2.0 grams per hour or less **AND** are on ADEC's list of approved devices.
- A pellet fueled hydronic heater may not be installed within 330 feet from the closest property line or within 660 feet from a school, clinic, hospital, or senior housing unit.
- Devices sold within the nonattainment area must be registered upon sale. Registration may be made directly online or on a downloadable form and submitted to ADEC.

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- All devices installed within the nonattainment area must be properly sized and professionally installed. Installation must be confirmed on a downloadable form and submitted to ADEC.
- Devices not meeting requirements may not be advertised for sale within the nonattainment area.
- Information regarding curtailment information and proper operating instructions shall be provided to a buyer at the time of sale.
- All removed devices shall be rendered inoperable.
- All existing non-certified woodstoves or pellet stoves, all non-pellet hydronic heaters, and all coal-fired heating devices must be removed by December 31, 2024 or before the device is sold, leased, or conveyed as part of an existing structure, whichever is first.
- Devices not meeting the emission standards may not be reinstalled within the area.
- Upon the effective date of an EPA finding, all EPA certified devices, other than masonry heaters, in the area that are older than 25 years and have an emission rating greater than 2.0 g/hr must be removed by December 31, 2024. Once a device exceeds 25 years old and has an emission rating greater than 2.0 g/hr, they will also be required to be removed, even after December 31, 2024.

#### Beginning **September 1, 2020**

- In order for a device to be an ADEC listed device and approved for sale and installation within the nonattainment area, additional criteria must be met. The device must still meet EPA certification and have an emission rate of 2.0 g/hr or less. In addition, the device may not have any valid 1-hr filter pull from the device's certification test report that exceeds 6.0 g/hr. If a TEOM is used during the certification test and the emission profile is submitted to ADEC, the result must demonstrate that no rolling 1 hour average exceeds 4.0 g/hr.

ADEC is committed to reviewing certification reports and posting the approved devices. If a device is not on the approved list, but is EPA Step 2 certified, you may contact ADEC to request a review or an explanation as to why the device was not included on the ADEC list. Vendors and manufacturers may wish to provide additional information, if available, to possibly change the determination.

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<sub>2.5</sub> emission standards for new wood heaters are intended to assist the FNSB in meeting the PM<sub>2.5</sub> ambient air quality standards. The greatest contributor to PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions within the FNSB is wood smoke.

The actual regulations and additional information, including the downloadable forms may be found at:

- <http://dec.alaska.gov/air/anpms/communities/fbks-pm2-5-proposed-regs-2019/> - the adopted regulations, adopted air quality plan, all the public notice versions may be found at this link. The

department did receive a number of comments regarding these regulations during the public review process. The response to these comments may also be found at this link.

- <http://dec.alaska.gov/air/anpms/communities/fbks-pm2-5-nonattainment-control-measure-requirements> - all the control measures within the nonattainment may be found at this link. This includes the Solid Fuel-Fired heating standards, requirements, and lists.
- <http://dec.alaska.gov/air/> - this is a short url, under Popular Content, select “Fairbanks PM<sub>2.5</sub>”, this may be a simpler way to reach the information.

For those vendors in and around the FNSB PM<sub>2.5</sub> nonattainment area, I will be either calling or visiting in January to review requirements and possibly set up a virtual meeting to further discuss. If you have any questions about these new emission standards please contact me at 907-451-5172 or [steven.hoke@alaska.gov](mailto:steven.hoke@alaska.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Hoke", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Steven Hoke  
Environmental Program Specialist