

MEMPR INFORMATION BULLETIN 09-05



What products are you regulating? Storage-type water heaters with a rated storage capacity of 76 to 380 litres and an input of 75 000 Btu/h or less, for use with natural gas or propane.

Are you forcing me to replace my water heater? No. The regulation applies to voluntary purchases of new or replacement water heaters. Individuals can keep their existing water heaters for as long as they wish.

What is the regulated energy efficiency standard for those products?

The Energy Factor (EF) must be greater or equal to¹ :
 $0.70 - (0.0005 \times V)$

Here are the new minimum EF levels for several common sizes:

Rated Storage Capacity in litres (US gallons)	Minimum Energy Factor
114 L (30 US gal)	0.64
151 L (40 US gal)	0.62
181 L (48 US gal)	0.61
189 L (50 US gal)	0.61
246 L (65 US gal)	0.58
283 L (75 US gal)	0.56

For a lookup table with all sizes, go to:

www.empr.gov.bc.ca/EAED/EnergyEfficiency/Pages/EEAct.aspx

When will the regulation take effect? September 1, 2010

Can I sell my inventory of non-compliant products after the effective date?

Any water heaters manufactured after September 1, 2010 must comply with the regulation. If you have unsold inventory of products manufactured before the effective date, they can still be sold legally in British Columbia after the effective date.

How can I tell if a product is compliant with efficiency regulations?

Suppliers can ensure compliance with the standard by stocking only products that meet the minimum EF level outlined above. If the manufacturer's product literature is not clear on this point, Natural Resources Canada has a gas water heater database which lists EF by model number, which can be found at www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca/residential/business/manufacturers/search/gas-water-heaters-search.cfm?attr=4

¹ In this equation, V is the water heater's rated storage capacity in litres, as tested under the standard CAN/CSA-P.3-04: *Testing Method for Measuring Energy Consumption and Determining Efficiencies of Gas-Fired Storage Water Heaters*.

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Do ENERGY STAR water heaters meet the new standard?

As of September 1, 2010, all new ENERGY STAR water heaters will be compliant with the B.C. regulation. ENERGY STAR water heaters manufactured before September 1, 2010 may not meet the standard in all cases, please check the database referenced in the previous question to confirm. Note: the ENERGY STAR standard is the same for all water heater sizes, whereas the new B.C. requirements vary with the tank size.



Who enforces this regulation? The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources is responsible for enforcing all regulated standards under the *EEA*.

What are the penalties for non-compliance? Under the *EEA*, the Ministry can conduct inspections to verify compliance with the *Act* and regulations. *EEA* enforcement begins with education and voluntary compliance measures. Ministry staff follow up on all complaints and other information respecting non-compliance, and communicate directly with industry participants to develop a compliance plan.

The Ministry can also seek to have those who have contravened the legislation charged under the *Offence Act*. An offence can result in fines up to \$2,000.



What do I do if I see a non-compliant product for sale or distribution?

Please circulate this information bulletin to the retailer or distributor. You can also report infractions to Erik Kaye, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources at 250-356-1507 or Erik.Kaye@gov.bc.ca.

For more information on B.C.'s *Energy Efficiency Act*:
www.empr.gov.bc.ca/EEC/Strategy/EEA/Pages/default.aspx