

Rule and SIP Adoption Notice

Solid Fuel Burning Devices, Chapter 173-433 WAC

The Department of Ecology adopted amendments to its Solid Fuel Burning Devices rule, Chapter 173-433 WAC. Ecology submitted this rule to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for inclusion into the Washington State Implementation Plan (SIP). The SIP is a statewide plan for meeting air quality standards.

What is Chapter 173-433 WAC?

Solid fuel burning devices include wood stoves, fireplaces, pellet stoves, and masonry heaters. This rule establishes the following for solid fuel burning devices:

- Emission standards.
- Certification standards and procedures.
- Fuel restrictions.
- Operation restrictions during impaired air quality burn bans.
- Criteria for prohibiting the use of solid fuel burning devices that are not certified.

Summary of the rule changes adopted on January 23rd, 2014

The changes to this rule help reduce Washington's wood smoke emissions to meet federal ambient air quality standards. The focus of this rule making was to:

- Modify thresholds for calling burn bans in areas at risk for nonattainment as outlined in law.
- Align the rule with other law changes.
- Meet EPA requirements.
- Help Washington's efforts to improve air quality in areas affected by pollution from wood stoves.
- Include housekeeping changes that improve rule clarity and consistency.

MORE INFORMATION

On the Web:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/rules/rules_laws.html

Effective date:

February 23, 2014

Contact information:

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Special accommodations:

For special accommodations or documents in alternate format, call 360-407-6800, 711 (relay service), or 877-833-6341 (TTY).

What is the purpose of the SIP revision?

Including the revised Solid Fuel Burning Devices rule in the SIP does the following:

- Supports the maintenance plan for the Tacoma-Pierce County Nonattainment Area. The maintenance plan outlines how Washington will ensure that the area continues to meet the national ambient air quality standard for fine particles.
- Helps reduce levels of fine particle pollution in other areas of Washington.
- Makes the rule federally enforceable.

EPA will publish a notice in the Federal Register and accept public comments before deciding whether or not to approve our SIP submission.

Response to comments

Ecology's response to comments received during the public comment period is now available. Download a copy at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/laws-rules/wac173433/1204.html>

Whom does this rule affect?

This rule and SIP revision affects:

- Washington residents who own or operate a solid fuel burning device.
- Local air agencies implementing this rule.
- Sensitive populations including children, elderly, and people with heart and lung disease.

More information

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To get updates on Ecology's rule-making activities, sign-up for the WACTrack e-mail list at www.ecy.wa.gov/maillist.html.

Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appealed under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.330). For more information about appealing this rule adoption, please contact Bari Schreiner, Agency Rules Coordinator, at (360) 407-6998 or bari.schreiner@ecy.wa.gov.

