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U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34), Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply, Office of Fossil Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 3E-042, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larine Moore or Benjamin Nussdorf, U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34), Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply, Office of Fossil Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 3E-042, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-9478; (202) 586-7991.

Cassandra Bernstein, U.S. Department of Energy (GC-76), Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Electricity and Fossil Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-9793.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**DOE/FE Evaluation**

The Application will be reviewed pursuant to section 3(a) of the NGA, 15 U.S.C. 717b(a), and DOE will consider any issues required by law or policy. To the extent determined to be relevant, these issues will include the domestic need for the natural gas proposed to be exported, the adequacy of domestic natural gas supply, U.S. energy security, and the cumulative impact of the requested authorization and any other LNG export application(s) previously approved on domestic natural gas supply and demand fundamentals. DOE may also consider other factors bearing on the public interest, including the impact of the proposed exports on the U.S. economy (including GDP, consumers, and industry), job creation, the U.S. balance of trade, and international considerations; and whether the authorization is consistent with DOE's policy of promoting competition in the marketplace by allowing commercial parties to freely negotiate their own trade arrangements. Additionally, DOE will consider the following environmental document: *Addendum to Environmental Review Documents Concerning Exports of Natural Gas From the United States*, 79 FR 48132 (Aug. 15, 2014).³ Parties that may oppose this Application should address these issues in their comments and/or protests, as well as other issues deemed relevant to the Application.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*,

requires DOE to give appropriate consideration to the environmental effects of its proposed decisions. No final decision will be issued in this proceeding until DOE has met its environmental responsibilities.

Public Comment Procedures

In response to this Notice, any person may file a protest, comments, or a motion to intervene or notice of intervention, as applicable. Due to the complexity of the issues raised by the Applicant, interested parties will be provided 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice in which to submit their comments, protests, motions to intervene, or notices of intervention.

Any person wishing to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene or notice of intervention. The filing of comments or a protest with respect to the Application will not serve to make the commenter or protestant a party to the proceeding, although protests and comments received from persons who are not parties will be considered in determining the appropriate action to be taken on the Application. All protests, comments, motions to intervene, or notices of intervention must meet the requirements specified by the regulations in 10 CFR part 590.

Filings may be submitted using one of the following methods: (1) Emailing the filing to fergas@hq.doe.gov, with FE Docket No. 14-209-LNG in the title line; (2) mailing an original and three paper copies of the filing to the Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply at the address listed in **ADDRESSES**; or (3) hand delivering an original and three paper copies of the filing to the Office of Oil and Gas Global Supply at the address listed in **ADDRESSES**. All filings must include a reference to FE Docket No. 14-209-LNG. **Please Note:** If submitting a filing via email, please include all related documents and attachments (e.g., exhibits) in the original email correspondence. Please do not include any active hyperlinks or password protection in any of the documents or attachments related to the filing. All electronic filings submitted to DOE must follow these guidelines to ensure that all documents are filed in a timely manner. Any hardcopy filing submitted greater in length than 50 pages must also include, at the time of the filing, a digital copy on disk of the entire submission.

A decisional record on the Application will be developed through responses to this notice by parties, including the parties' written comments

and replies thereto. Additional procedures will be used as necessary to achieve a complete understanding of the facts and issues. If an additional procedure is scheduled, notice will be provided to all parties. If no party requests additional procedures, a final Opinion and Order may be issued based on the official record, including the Application and responses filed by parties pursuant to this notice, in accordance with 10 CFR 590.316.

The Application is available for inspection and copying in the Division of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities docket room, Room 3E-042, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585. The docket room is open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Application and any filed protests, motions to intervene or notice of interventions, and comments will also be available electronically by going to the following DOE/FE Web address: <http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/gasregulation/index.html>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 19, 2015.

John A. Anderson,

Director, Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply, Office of Oil and Natural Gas.

[FR Doc. 2015-06921 Filed 3-25-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

[Case No. VHE-002]

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Decision and Order Granting a Waiver to Empire Comfort Systems From the Department of Energy Vented Home Heating Equipment Test Procedure

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Decision and Order.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) gives notice of its Decision and Order in Case No. VHE-002, which grants Empire Comfort Systems, Inc. (Empire) a waiver from the existing DOE test procedure for determining the energy consumption of residential vented home heating equipment. DOE previously published the Empire Petition for Waiver and solicited comments, data, and information regarding the petition, which requested permission to use the DOE test procedure proposed in the

³ The Addendum and related documents are available at: <http://energy.gov/fe/draft-addendum-environmental-review-documents-concerning-exports-natural-gas-united-states>.

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR) for Direct Heating Equipment and Pool Heaters published in the **Federal Register** on October 24, 2013, as an alternate test procedure to account for the energy consumption of its condensing-type direct heating equipment (DHE) models. Under this Decision and Order, Empire shall be required to test and rate its condensing-type direct DHE models using the applicable provisions of the DOE test procedure final rule for DHE published in the **Federal Register** on January 6, 2015. Empire shall use those provisions as an alternate test procedure until July 6, 2015, the mandatory compliance date for the amended test procedure, at which point this waiver shall terminate.

DATES: This Decision and Order is effective March 26, 2015. The waiver granted in this Decision and Order shall terminate on July 6, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Bryan Berringer, U.S. Department of Energy, Building Technologies Office, Mailstop EE-5B, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 586-0371. Email: Bryan.Berringer@ee.doe.gov.

Mr. Eric Stas, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, Mail Stop GC-33, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585-0103. Telephone: (202) 586-9507. Email: Eric.Stas@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 10 CFR 430.27(l), DOE gives notice of the issuance of its Decision and Order as set forth below. The Decision and Order grants Empire's request for waiver from the existing residential vented home heating equipment test procedure in 10 CFR part 430, subpart B, appendix O for its PVS (18,35)(K)(N)(P) basic model of condensing-type direct heating equipment, provided that Empire tests and rates such products using the alternate test procedure described in this notice. This Decision and Order prohibits Empire from making representations concerning the energy efficiency of these products unless the product has been tested consistent with the provisions of the alternate test procedure set forth below, and the representations fairly disclose the test results. Distributors, retailers, and private labelers are held to the same standard when making representations regarding the energy efficiency of these products. (42 U.S.C. 6293(c)) This waiver shall terminate on July 6, 2015, the mandatory compliance date for the amended DOE DHE test procedure (the source of the alternate test procedure).

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 20, 2015.

Kathleen B. Hogan,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Decision and Order

In the Matter of: Empire Comfort Systems Inc. (Empire) (Case No. VHE-002).

I. Background and Authority

Title III, Part B¹ of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (EPCA), Public Law 94-163 (42 U.S.C. 6291-6309, as codified), sets forth a variety of provisions concerning energy efficiency and established the "Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products Other Than Automobiles." This program covers most major household appliances, including the vented home heating equipment that is the subject of this notice.² Part B includes definitions, test procedures, labeling provisions, energy conservation standards, and the authority to require information and reports from manufacturers. Further, Part B authorizes the Secretary of Energy to prescribe test procedures that are reasonably designed to produce results that measure energy efficiency, energy use, or estimated operating costs, and that are not unduly burdensome to conduct. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)) The test procedure for residential vented home heating equipment is contained in 10 CFR part 430, subpart B, appendix O, *Uniform Test Method for Measuring the Energy Consumption of Vented Home Heating Equipment*.

The regulations set forth in 10 CFR 430.27, which were recently amended, contain provisions that enable a person to petition DOE to obtain a waiver from the test procedure requirements for covered products. *See* 79 FR 26591 (May 9, 2014) (revising 10 CFR 430.27, effective June 9, 2014). (DOE notes that while the previous version of 10 CFR 430.27 was effective at the time of Empire's submission, the substantive aspects of this regulation have not been changed by the May 9, 2014 final rule.) A person may petition for a waiver from the test procedure requirements that would ordinarily apply to a particular basic model covered under DOE's regulations when: (1) The petitioner's basic model for which the petition for waiver was submitted contains one or

more design characteristics that prevent testing according to the prescribed test procedure, or (2) when prescribed test procedures may evaluate the basic model in a manner so unrepresentative of its true energy and/or water consumption characteristics as to provide materially inaccurate comparative data. 10 CFR 430.27(a)(1) (noting that a person may petition to waive for a particular basic model any requirements of 10 CFR 430.23 or of "any appendix" under 10 CFR part 430, subpart B). Petitioners must include in their petition any alternate test procedures known to the petitioner to evaluate the basic model in a manner representative of its energy consumption characteristics. 10 CFR 430.27(b)(1)(iii).

DOE may grant a waiver subject to conditions, including adherence to alternate test procedures. 10 CFR 430.27(f)(2). Waivers remain in effect pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 430.27(h).

Any interested person who has submitted a Petition for Waiver may also file an Application for Interim Waiver from the applicable test procedure requirements. 10 CFR 430.27(b)(2). DOE will grant an interim waiver request if it is determined that the applicant will experience economic hardship if the interim waiver is denied, if it appears likely that the petition for waiver will be granted, and/or DOE determines that it would be desirable for public policy reasons to grant immediate relief pending a determination on the petition for waiver. 10 CFR 430.27(e)(2).

II. Empire's Petition for Waiver: Assertions and Determinations

On January 20, 2014, Empire filed a Petition for Waiver and Application for Interim Waiver for a condensing-type direct heating equipment model from the test procedure applicable to vented home heating equipment set forth in 10 CFR part 430, subpart B, appendix O.³

¹ For editorial reasons, on codification in the U.S. Code, Part B was re-designated Part A.

² All references to EPCA in this document refer to the statute as amended through the American Energy Manufacturing Technical Corrections Act (AEMTCA), Public Law 112-210 (Dec. 18, 2012).

³ On July 21, 2011, Empire originally filed a petition for waiver from the DOE test procedure for residential vented home heating equipment for specified condensing-type direct heating equipment models applicable to its Mantis vented gas fireplace systems. The current DOE test procedure in appendix O has no provisions for testing condensing-type direct heating equipment. On November 3, 2011, DOE published the Empire petition for waiver (Case No. VHE-001) from the vented home heating equipment test procedure in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 68180). The notice provided for the submission of comments by December 5, 2011. Because all known manufacturers of domestically-marketed units of the same product type were not timely notified that DOE published the Petition for Waiver, DOE determined that re-opening of the public comment period was appropriate. On February 1, 2012, DOE

See 79 FR 18536 (April 2, 2014). In its petition, Empire seeks a waiver from the existing DOE test procedure for its vented gas heaters and fireplace systems under 10 CFR part 430 because Empire asserts that the existing test procedure does not account for condensing-type heating equipment. Empire seeks to use the test method proposed by DOE in a NOPR for Direct Heating Equipment and Pool Heaters published in the **Federal Register** on October 24, 2013 (78 FR 63410) (hereinafter the “October 2013 NOPR”), as an alternate test procedure to account for the energy consumption of its condensing-type DHE models. That notice, in relevant part, defines the term “condensing vented heater” and provides a method for testing these devices.

DOE notes that of the eight basic model numbers set forth in Empire’s petition, only one (PVS (18, 35) (K)(N)(P)) qualifies as a covered DHE product. The remaining seven basic models (which are fireplaces, fireplace inserts, or stoves) are hearth products and are, therefore, subject to neither the test procedure requirements of 10 CFR part 430, subpart B, appendix O nor the proposed requirements of the October 2013 NOPR.⁴ Therefore, DOE has considered only one of the basic models submitted in the petition for waiver. For the remaining basic models, since testing of hearth products is not required under DOE regulations at this time, there is no need to consider a waiver for such models. However, if Empire chooses to conduct testing to make representations regarding the energy efficiency of these products, the company is free to use any test procedure it deems appropriate.

Empire also requested an interim waiver from the existing DOE test procedure, which DOE granted. See 79

FR 18536, 18537 (April 2, 2014). An interim waiver may be granted if it appears likely that the Petition for Waiver will be granted and/or DOE determines that it would be desirable for public policy reasons to grant immediate relief pending a determination of the petition for waiver. See 10 CFR 430.27(e)(2). DOE determined that Empire’s Application for Interim Waiver did not provide sufficient market, equipment price, shipments, and other manufacturer impact information to permit DOE to evaluate the economic hardship Empire might experience absent a favorable determination on its Application for Interim Waiver. DOE understands, however, that absent an interim waiver, the basic model submitted by Empire that qualifies as a covered product could not be tested and rated for energy consumption on a basis representative of its true energy consumption characteristics. It is in the public interest to have similar products tested and rated for energy consumption on a comparable basis, where possible. Furthermore, DOE determined that Empire is likely to succeed on the merits of its Petition for Waiver and that it is desirable for public policy reasons to grant immediate relief. Empire requested to use the test method proposed by DOE in the October 2013 NOPR as an alternate test procedure to account for the energy consumption of its condensing-type direct heating equipment models; that notice, in relevant part, defines the term “condensing vented heater” and provides a method for testing these devices, thereby providing a suitable vehicle for testing these products and making representations as to their energy efficiency. For the reasons stated above, DOE granted Empire’s Application for Interim Waiver from testing of its condensing-type vented gas heater system. 79 FR 18536, 18537–38 (April 2, 2014).

DOE did not receive any comments on the Empire petition published in the **Federal Register** on April 2, 2014 (79 FR 18536).

Under this Decision and Order, Empire shall be required to test and rate its condensing-type direct heating equipment (DHE) models using the DOE Final Rule test procedure for DHE published in the **Federal Register** on January 6, 2015 (80 FR 792). The effective date of this rule was February 5, 2015 and compliance will be mandatory starting July 6, 2015. DOE feels that the use of the Final Rule test procedure will utilize the most up-to-date test method and be able to compare similar products to help inform the

consumer when purchasing these types of products.

III. Consultations With Other Agencies

DOE consulted with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) staff concerning the Empire petition for waiver. The FTC staff did not have any objections to granting a waiver to Empire.

IV. Conclusion

After careful consideration of all the material that was submitted by Empire and consultation with the FTC staff, it is ordered that:

(1) The Petition for Waiver submitted by the Empire Comfort Systems, Inc. (Case No. VHE–002) is hereby granted as set forth in the paragraphs below.

(2) Empire shall be required to test and rate the following basic model (condensing vented heater):

PVS (18,35) (K)(N)(P) according to the alternate test procedure set forth in paragraph (3) below.

(3) Empire shall not be required to test the products listed in paragraph (2) above according to the test procedure for residential vented home heating equipment set forth in 10 CFR part 430, subpart B, appendix O, but instead shall use as the amended test procedure as set forth in the final rule published in the **Federal Register** on January 6, 2015 (80 FR 792).

(4) Representations. Empire may make representations about the energy use of its condensing-type DHE models for compliance, marketing, or other purposes only to the extent that such products have been tested in accordance with the provisions outlined above and such representations fairly disclose the results of such testing.

(5) This waiver shall terminate on July 6, 2015, consistent with the provisions of 10 CFR 430.27(h)(2).

(6) This waiver is issued on the condition that the statements, representations, and documentary materials provided by the petitioner are valid. DOE may revoke or modify this waiver at any time if it determines the factual basis underlying the Petition for Waiver is incorrect, or the results from the alternate test procedure are unrepresentative of the basic model’s true energy consumption characteristics.

(7) This waiver is granted for only those models specifically set out in Empire’s January 20, 2014 Petition for Waiver, not future models that may be manufactured by Empire. Empire may submit a new or amended Petition for Waiver and Application for Grant of Interim Waiver, as appropriate, for additional residential vented home heating equipment models for which it seeks a waiver from the DOE test

published a notice of re-opening of the public comment period in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 5001) with the comment period ending on March 2, 2012. DOE received no comments during the initial petition for waiver comment period nor during the re-opening of the public comment period. In the January 20, 2014 request, Empire stated that the list of models in the original waiver submitted to DOE on July 21, 2011 is no longer accurate and is superseded by its latter petition. Thus, DOE has withdrawn the petition under Case No. VHE–001.

⁴ On February 8, 2013, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (D.C. Circuit) issued a decision vacating the DOE definition of “Vented hearth heater” at 10 CFR 430.2, and remanded the issue to DOE to interpret the challenged provisions consistent with the court’s opinion. *Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association v. U.S. Department of Energy*, 706 F.3d 499, 509 (D.C. Cir. 2013). Since that time, DOE has published a proposed coverage determination that would classify all hearth products as a new covered product pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6292(a)(20) and (b). 78 FR 79638 (Dec. 31, 2013).

procedure. Grant of this waiver also does not release Empire from the certification requirements set forth at 10 CFR part 429.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 20, 2015.

Kathleen B. Hogan,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 2015-06922 Filed 3-25-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years, an information collection request with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the extended collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before May 26, 2015. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be sent to: Eva Auman, GC-63, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20585; Fax: 202-586-0971; or email at: eva.auman@hq.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Eva Auman, GC-63, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave. SW., Washington,

DC 20585; Fax: 202-586-0971; or email at: eva.auman@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This information collection request contains: (1) OMB No. 1910-5143; (2) *Information Collection Request Title:* Labor Relations Report; (3) *Type of Request:* three-year extension with minor change due to new electronic reporting system; (4) *Purpose:* To obtain information from the Department of Energy Management and Operation and Facilities Management Contractors for management oversight and cost control; (5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents:* 35; (6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 35; (7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 193; (8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.00 annually.

Statutory Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7254, 7256.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 20, 2015.

Jean S. Stucky,

Assistant General Counsel for Labor and Pension Law, Office of the General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2015-06920 Filed 3-25-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OECA-2014-0055; FRL-9924-46-OEI]

Information Collection Request Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NESHAP for the Secondary Lead Smelter Industry (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has submitted an information collection request (ICR), "NESHAP for the Secondary Lead Smelter Industry (Renewal)" (EPA ICR No. 1686.10, OMB Control No. 2060-0296) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through March 31, 2015. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** (79 FR 30117) on May 27, 2014 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. A fuller description of the ICR is given below, including its estimated burden and cost to the public. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of

information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

DATES: Additional comments may be submitted on or before April 27, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OECA-2014-0055, to (1) EPA online using www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), by email to docket.oeca@epa.gov, or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460, and (2) OMB via email to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov. Address comments to OMB Desk Officer for EPA.

EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick Yellin, Monitoring, Assistance, and Media Programs Division, Office of Compliance, Mail Code 2227A, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-2970; fax number: (202) 564-0050; email address: yellin.patrick@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Supporting documents, which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting, are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at www.regulations.gov or in person at the EPA Docket Center, EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202-566-1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, visit <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Abstract: This standard applies to owners and operators of secondary lead smelter industry facilities. The provisions of this subpart apply to secondary lead smelters that use blast, reverberatory, rotary, or electric smelting furnaces to recover lead metal from scrap lead, primarily from used lead-acid automotive-type batteries. Consistent with the NESHAP General Provisions (40 CFR part 63, subpart A), owners and operators must comply with recordkeeping, monitoring and reporting requirements including control device parameter monitoring, conduct performance tests and submittal of initial and periodic reports such as semiannual compliance reports and an operation, maintenance and