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DOE Publishes Final Rule for Residential Water Heater Standards

On May 6, 2024, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) published a <u>Final Rule</u> updating the energy conservation standards for residential water heaters. The standards will require minor updates to gas-fired storage water heaters. Electric storage water heaters >35 gallons will require heat pump technology. The gas instantaneous product category has been excluded from this rule and will be addressed by the DOE in a subsequent rulemaking.

The new energy efficiency levels will be required for all residential water heaters produced on and after May 6, 2029.

Below is a summary of the impacts of the final rule:

Gas-fired Storage

- <20 gallon: new standard to add UEF to these models no current American products impacted
- ≥20 and ≤55 gallon: incremental UEF increase atmospheric gas units will require the addition of a damper
- >55 and ≤100 gallon: no change
- >100 gallon: new standard to add UEF to these models

Gas-fired Instantaneous

• No change at this time

Electric Storage

- <20 gallon: new standard to add UEF to these models compact units <20 gallon will have a UEF and FHR value added by the implementation date
- ≥20 and ≤35 gallon: no UEF change but will be limited to a max FHR of 50 gallons and a max temperature setting of 135°F
 - All nominal 40 gallon electrics are currently rated at 36 or 37 gallons and will have to be reduced to 35 gallons
- >35 and ≤120 gallon: requires Heat Pump Water Heater
- >75 gallon grid-enabled: no change
- >120 gallon: new standard to add UEF to these models no current American products impacted

Electric Instantaneous

- <2 gallon: no change
- ≥2 gallon: new standard to add UEF to these models no current American products impacted

We value your partnership, and we are committed to having the products, education and support you will need to be ready for these changes.