

WOOD BURNING FACT SHEET

San Joaquin Valley

Affecting the counties of:
Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Merced, Fresno, Tulare, Kings, Kern & Madera

On July 17, 2003, the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) Governing Board passed amendments to Rule 4901. The designed purpose of Rule 4901 with the new amendments is:

“To limit emissions of carbon monoxide and particulate matter from wood burning fireplaces and wood burning heaters, and to establish a public education program to reduce wood burning emissions.” (Section 1.0)

Also on July 17th 2003, the air district (SJVUAPCD) Governing Board passed an additional resolution (No. 03-07-11c) related to Rule 4901, which:

“directs the APCO (Air Pollution Control Officer and air district staff) to develop an enhanced public education program to encourage the public to refrain from operating Wood Burning fireplaces and Wood Burning Heaters except for EPA Phase-II certified devices, pellet fueled devices and manufactured fire-logs whenever an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 100 to 149 is predicted for the geographic region.”

For a copy of Rule 4901 or Resolution No.03-07-11c go to
www.valleyair.org



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Wood Burning Facts on Rule 4901

Requirements (Section 5.0)

Sale of Wood Burning Heaters (Sections 5.1.1–3)

“No person shall sell, offer for sale, supply, install, or transfer a **new** Wood Burning Heater unless it is EPA Phase II Certified, or is a pellet-fueled wood burning heater.” A “Wood Heater” is defined as an enclosed wood burning appliance intended for space heating. These are “air controlled” wood stoves and fireplace inserts.

“No person shall advertise, sell, offer for sale, supply, install, or transfer a **used** Wood Burning Heater unless it has been rendered permanently inoperable, **or** is EPA Phase II Certified, **or** is a pellet-fueled Wood Burning Heater.”

Retailers who sell new Wood Burning Heater must supply public awareness information which covers:

1. Proper installation and use.
2. Proper fuel selection and use
3. Health effects from wood smoke.
4. Weatherize methods for the home.
5. Proper sizing of Wood Burning Heaters.

Sale or Transfer of Real Property (Section 5.2.1)

(Beginning January 1, 2004)

“No person shall sell or transfer any real property which contains a Wood Burning Heater without first assuring that each Wood Burning Heater included in the real property is EPA Phase II Certified, a pellet fueled Wood Burning Heater (or is), permanently rendered inoperable, or removed.”

Limitations on Wood Burning Fireplaces (WBF) or Wood Burning Heaters (WBH) in New Residential Developments (Sections 5.3.1–3)

(Beginning January 1, 2004)

“No person shall install a Wood Burning Fireplace in a new residential development with a density greater than two (2) dwelling units per acre.” A Wood Burning Fireplace is defined as “any permanently installed masonry or factory built device designed to be used with an air-to-fuel ratio greater than or equal to 35-to-1.”

“No person shall install more than two (2) EPA Phase II Certified Wood Burning Heaters per acre in any new residential development with a density equal to or greater than three (3) dwelling units per acre.”

“No person shall install more than one (1) Wood Burning Fireplace or wood burning heater per dwelling unit in any new residential development with a density equal to or less than two (2) dwelling units per acre.”

Overall, in new residential construction, there will allowed one (1) wood-burning appliance per residence. If that residence is on an acre with a density of two or less residential units then each residence may install a Wood Burning Fireplace or a Wood Burning Heater. If a residence is on an acre with a density of three or more residential units, then two (2) EPA Phase II Certified Wood Burning Heaters may be installed per acre, but only one (1) per residence.

Advertising Requirements for Sale of Wood (Section 5.4.1)

“No person shall sell, offer for sale, or supply any wood which is orally or in writing, advertised, described, or in any way represented to be “seasoned wood” unless the wood has a moisture content of 20 percent or less by weight.”

Prohibited Fuel Types

“No person shall cause or allow any of the following materials to be burned in a Wood Burning Fireplace or Wood Burning Heater: Garbage, treated wood, plastic products, rubber products, waste petroleum products, paints and paint solvents, coal, or any other material not intended by a manufacturer for use as fuel in a solid fuel burning device.”

Episodic Wood Burning Curtailment (Sections 5.6.1–3)

(This section shall be in effect during the months of November through February.)

“No person shall operate a wood burning fireplace or wood burning heater whenever the APCO notifies the public that an Episodic Curtailment is in effect for the region in which the Wood Burning Fireplace or Wood Burning Heater is located.”

The APCO shall notify the public of an Episodic Curtailment for a geographic region whenever an Air Quality Index (AQI) value of 150 or greater is predicted for the geographic region (county). AQI is described in 40 CFR Part 58, and is determined daily by the APCO or designee.

Exemptions:

- Those that are 3,000 feet or more above mean sea level.
- Those in locations where natural gas service is not available.
- Those that are the sole source of heat in a residence.

Resolution No. 03-07-IIc

“The Governing Board hereby directs the APCO to develop an enhanced public education program to encourage the public to refrain from operating Wood Burning Fireplaces and Wood Burning Heaters except for EPA Phase-II certified devices, pellet fueled devices, and manufactured firelogs whenever and Air Quality Index (AQI) of 100 to 149 is predicted for the geographic region.”

AN OVERVIEW OF EPISODIC WOOD BURNING CURTAILMENT PROGRAMS ESTABLISHES:

A “**VOLUNTARY**” public education program to encourage the public to use only EPA Phase II certified wood heaters, pellet devices and manufactured logs when a specified geographic region is forecast to have an AQI between 100 and 149.

A “**MANDATORY**” curtailment of ALL wood burning when air quality is expected to surpass 150 on the Air Quality Index (AQI) in a specified geographic region. **Enforcement** of a **Mandatory** curtailment can be made by the Air District on any residence that is not in compliance.

The intent of the first stage Voluntary program is to encourage residents “who choose to burn wood” to reduce particulate emissions by using the best available wood burning technologies with a goal not to exceed the limit for “unhealthy” air quality (150 AQI.) The residents of the San Joaquin Valley can reduce and limit particulate emissions and carbon monoxide from wood burning by making positive choices when they use their fireplaces or wood heaters. The Air District is projecting a limited number of MANDATORY Curtailment nights. The goal is to eliminate the need for ANY MANDATORY curtailment nights.

Call (888) 332-2472 for a copy of the brochure “**WOOD IS GOOD! BURN IT SMART**”.

To read the entire Rule 4901 as amended...
To read the entire No. 03-07-11c Resolution...
To find dealers in your area selling cleanburning products...
To find NFI Certified Installation & Service professionals...

visit

www.hpbapacific.org

