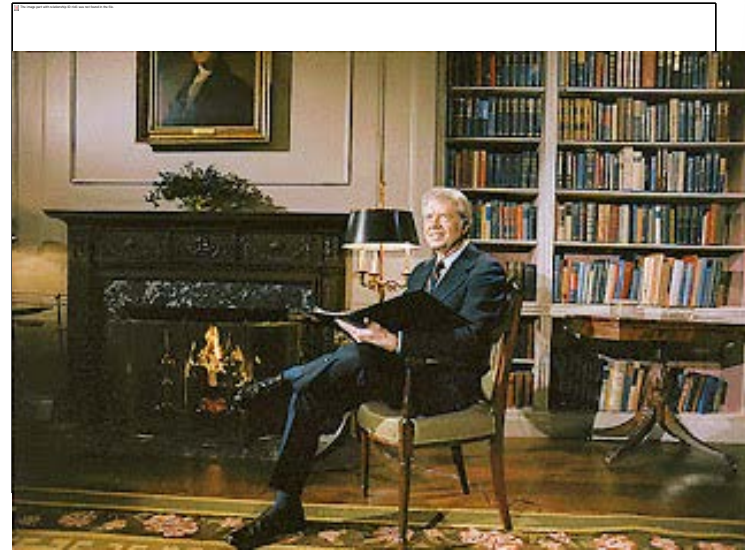
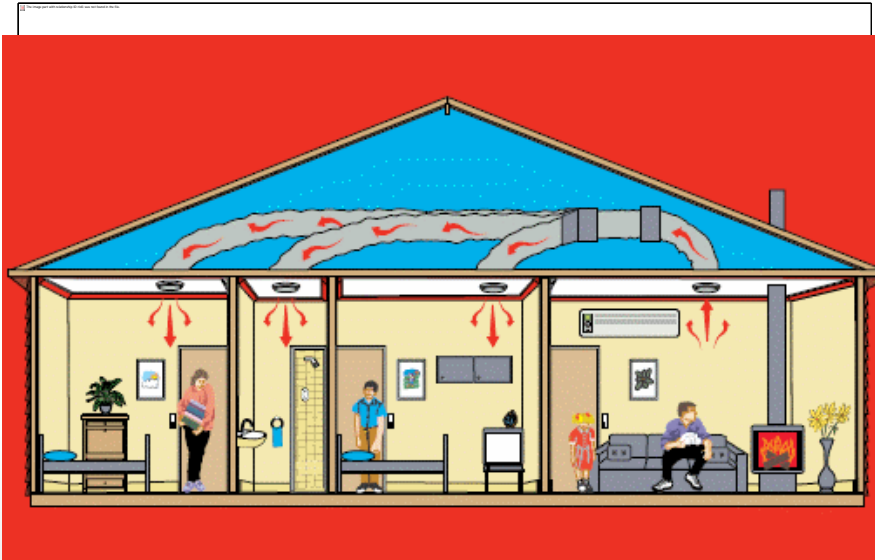


National Updates – Congress, Agencies & Associations

John Ackerly
President, **Alliance for Green Heat**

Heating the Midwest
Escanaba, Michigan
October 2016



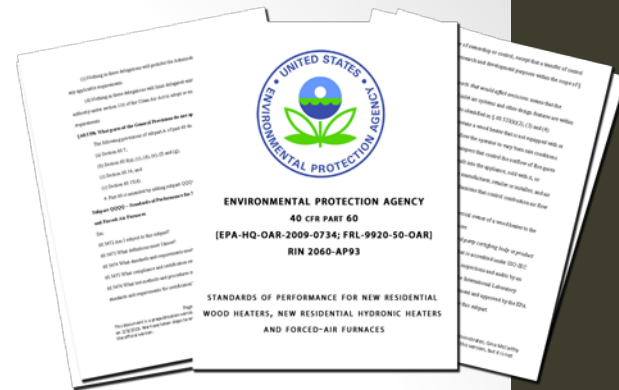


ALLIANCE
FOR GREEN HEAT
low carbon, renewable and local

- ✓ 501c3 nonprofit funded by foundations & grants
- ✓ A national voice for wood heat consumers
- ✓ Work for more incentives for the cleanest & most efficient biomass heaters
- ✓ Host technology design competitions to explore automated, “next generation” stoves
- ✓ Push for more transparency from manufacturers and EPA about testing and efficiencies.
- ✓ Integrate stoves into work of energy auditors and home energy professionals.

EPA update

- All stoves and boilers must be EPA certified.
- EPA and HPBA will be litigating the 2015 NSPS.
- Can the EPA can set a 2020 emission standard of 2 or 2.5 grams an hour for wood stoves and .10 for boilers and furnaces?
- Questions
 - Did the EPA have sufficient data with cord wood?
 - How important is repeatability?
 - How much discretion will the court give EPA?
 - What, if any, are implications of 25% of wood stoves testing under 2 grams an hour?



Efficiency update

- EPA began requiring stoves to test for and report efficiency for stoves being certified after May 2015.
- As of October 2016, about 100 out of 469 models, or 20% of models, now have actual, verified efficiency.
- Most stoves only disclose efficiency to consumers when required, but a few companies have voluntarily disclosed efficiency such as Jotul and Blaze King.
- For pellet stoves, this is vital info for consumers since pellet stoves can range from 55 to 85% efficiency.



Efficiencies

- The 120 stove models with verified listed efficiency may be slightly higher than the average of all 473 models
- Pellet stoves have widest range.
- Hybrids are cleanest on average.
- No change out or incentive program prevents public funding going to the least efficient stoves.

Average verified efficiencies:

- **Wood stoves (84) = 73%**
- hybrids (6) = 79%
- catalytic (17) = 78%
- non-catalytic (61) = 71%
- **Pellet stoves (35) = 73%**

Efficiency ranges:

- **Wood stoves = 60-84%**
- hybrids = 76-82%
- catalytic = 63-84%
- non-catalytic = 60-83%
- **Pellet stoves = 58-87%**

Average emissions (g/hr):

- **Wood stoves = 2.6**
- hybrids = 0.8
- catalytic = 1.5
- non-catalytic = 3.1
- **Pellet stoves = 1.3**

(verified efficiency stoves only)

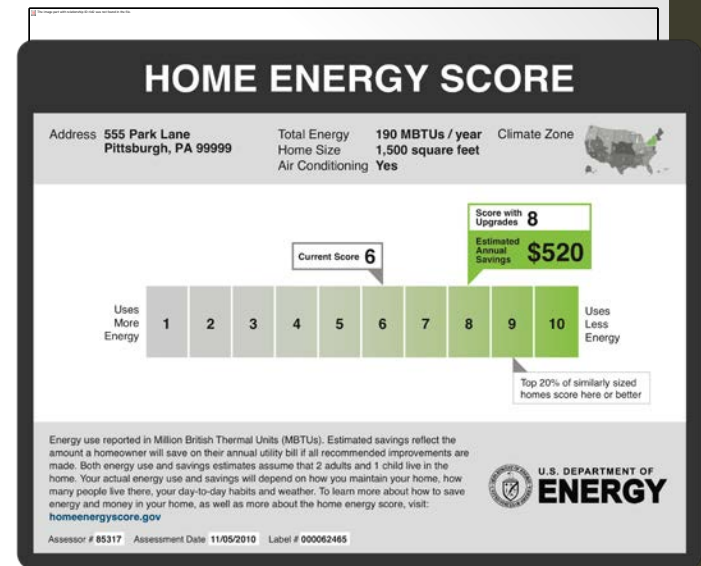
Test Method update

- There still is not an approved test method for cordwood and no stove has been approved, that we know of, using cordwood.
- The ASTM test method process continues, and the EPA is developing a reference method.
- COAL: EPA also developing a voluntary test method for coal stoves.



DOE update

- Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) is finally integrating wood and pellet stoves to the Health & Safety program requirements
- Most states get WAP funds, and this means that in any subsidized weatherization and energy upgrade work, contractors will now inspect stove, and potentially repair or replace it, just like they do with fossil fuel heaters.
 - Checking for EPA certification
 - Checking clearances, cracked glass, signs of smoke leakage, etc.
 - Should lead to more work for stove retailers & installers & chimney sweeps



Congress

- BTU Act. Section 48 of the tax code could be extended and the BTU Act could be included this year.
- Wood heater tax credit, Section 25C of the tax code, may also be extended.
- HPBA pushing for extension with no changes, so virtually all stoves qualify as at least 75% efficient.
- AGH pushing for changes that would extend tax credit for efficient stoves, but not inefficient ones
 - Consumers are being misled
 - Manufacturers have little incentive – or reward – to build more efficient stoves
 - Public funds are being used inappropriately



The election

- Chairmanships switch if Senate and/or House goes democrat
 - Senator Wyden becomes chair of Senate Finance Committee, etc.
etc.
- Agency secretaries: USDA, DOE, EPA
- Clean Power Plan has better chance under Hillary.
- Impact of price of fossil fuels?
- No matter who wins, role of groups like BTEC is vital and there will be a lot of work for all of us to educate new folks and make sure our priorities become their priorities.



Alliance for Green Heat update

- Launching a **Online Stove Change out Resource Center**
 - Help program managers to design more effective change out programs
 - Push for a federal stove change out fund
- Planning the next **Stove Design Challenge** on the National Mall
 - Showcase new technology for federal officials
 - Under consideration: a competition to see who can make the most electricity from a wood or pellet stove
 - Tesla interested in recharging its Powerwall battery in winter months in northern areas, when solar panels underperform

