



California Energy Commission

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February 18, 2014

To: Chairman Robert Weisenmiller
Commissioner Andrew McAllister
Commission David Hochschild
Commissioner Karen Douglas
Commissioner Janea Scott

From: Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association

Docket: 13-AAER-1

RE: Appliance Efficiency Regulations (CEC-400-2014-015-45DAY)

Commissioners:

The Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association, Pacific Affiliate (HPBAP) is a not-for-profit trade association that represents and promotes the interests of the hearth products industry regionally in California, Nevada and Hawaii. HPBA is also a not-for-profit trade association which represents manufacturers all across North America. The national association and regional affiliate represent several national and California entities that include manufacturers, retailers and service companies. As HBPAP has testified and sent comments into the Docket, the hearth heater portions of the Appliance Efficiency Regulations are unenforceable, arbitrary and capricious. They had the potential impact of putting vented gas fireplace heaters out of business immediately after adoption.

HPBA has explained these implications to staff and is grateful for their recognition of the impact on the vented gas fireplace industry. HPBA is here to support the changes staff has made to strike the hearth heater portions of the 45-Day language. This eliminates the CEC from promulgating unenforceable regulations in the field. HPBA wishes to thank Harinder Singh and Consuelo Martinez for their time and efforts assisting HPBA.

Staff proposes to add vented gas fireplace heaters regulations into the Appliance Efficiency Regulations once this issue is resolved by the current DOE rulemaking. HPBA is actively participating in this rulemaking. HPBA supports entering these regulations into the Appliance Efficiency Regulations once this action is complete and noticed in the Federal Register.

Respectfully,

Tom Karow
President, HPBA Pacific

cc: Rob Oglesby, CEC Executive Director
Dave Ashuckian, CEC Deputy Director of the Efficiency & Renewable Energy Division
Consuelo Martinez, CEC Manager of the Appliances & Existing Building Office

Harinder Singh, CEC staff

Patrick Saxton, CEC Advisor to Commissioner McAllister

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