

Gentlemen: This is a Petition for Waiver and Application for Interim Waiver which are submitted pursuant to Title 10 CFR 430.27. Waiver is requested from Test Procedures for Measuring the Energy Consumption of Furnace found in Appendix N to Subpart B of Part 430.

The test procedure requires a 1.5 minute delay between burner and blower start-up. Thermo Products requests a waiver from the specified 1.5 minute delay and requests approval to use a 45-second delay for our Series CHA- upflow and CCA- downflow condensing type residential gas fired furnaces.

An electronic fan control is being used on these products that incorporate a fixed timing.

Current test procedures do not credit Thermo Products for the energy savings associated with the shorter blower timing. The shorter timed on fan delay reduces flue losses therefor increasing furnace efficiency. Test data for these furnaces utilizing a 45-second timing indicates an increase in AFUE up to 2%. Confidential supporting test data is available upon request.

Thermo Products is confident that this Waiver will be granted, as several other manufacturers of gas furnaces received DOE granted waivers such as Carrier, Lennox Industries, Inter-City Products, Amana, Rheem Manufacturing and others based on timed blower operation.

Manufacturers that domestically market similar products are being sent a copy of this Petition for Waiver and Application for Interim Waiver.

Sincerely,

Everett E. James,

Director of Engineering.

[FR Doc. 96-1728 Filed 1-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

[Case No. F-084]

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Granting of the Application for Interim Waiver and Publishing of the Petition for Waiver of Goodman Manufacturing Company From the DOE Furnace Test Procedure

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Today's notice grants an Interim Waiver to Goodman Manufacturing Company (Goodman) from the existing Department of Energy (DOE or Department) test procedure regarding blower time delay for the company's GSU series central furnaces.

Today's notice also publishes a "Petition for Waiver" from Goodman. Goodman's Petition for Waiver requests DOE to grant relief from the DOE furnace test procedure relating to the blower time delay specification. Goodman seeks to test using a blower

delay time of 30 seconds for its GSU series central furnaces instead of the specified 1.5-minute delay between burner on-time and blower on-time. The Department is soliciting comments, data, and information respecting the Petition for Waiver.

DATES: DOE will accept comments, data, and information not later than February 29, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and statements shall be sent to: Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Case No. F-084, Mail Stop EE-43, Room 1J-108, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586-7140.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cyrus H. Nasser, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Mail Station EE-431, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20585-0121, (202) 586-9138

Eugene Margolis, Esq., U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel, Mail Station GC-72, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20585-0103, (202) 586-9507

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products (other than automobiles) was established pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended (EPCA), which requires DOE to prescribe standardized test procedures to measure the energy consumption of certain consumer products, including furnaces. The intent of the test procedures is to provide a comparable measure of energy consumption that will assist consumers in making purchasing decisions. These test procedures appear at Title 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B.

The Department amended the test procedure rules to provide for a waiver process by adding Section 430.27 to Title 10 CFR Part 430, 45 FR 64108, September 26, 1980. Subsequently, DOE amended the waiver process to allow the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (Assistant Secretary) to grant an Interim Waiver from test procedure requirements to manufacturers that have petitioned DOE for a waiver of such prescribed test procedures. Title 10 CFR Part 430, Section 430.27(a)(2).

The waiver process allows the Assistant Secretary to waive temporarily test procedures for a particular basic model when a petitioner shows that the basic model contains one or more

design characteristics which prevent testing according to the prescribed test procedures, or when the prescribed test procedures may evaluate the basic model in a manner so unrepresentative of its true energy consumption as to provide materially inaccurate comparative data. Waivers generally remain in effect until final test procedure amendments become effective, resolving the problem that is the subject of the waiver.

An Interim Waiver will be granted if it is determined that the applicant will experience economic hardship if the Application for Interim Waiver is denied, if it appears likely that the Petition for Waiver will be granted, and/or the Assistant Secretary determines that it would be desirable for public policy reasons to grant immediate relief pending a determination on the Petition for Waiver. Title 10 CFR Part 430, Section 430.27 (g). An Interim Waiver remains in effect for a period of 180 days or until DOE issues its determination on the Petition for Waiver, whichever is sooner, and may be extended for an additional 180 days, if necessary.

On July 19, 1995, Goodman filed an Application for Interim Waiver and a Petition for Waiver regarding blower time delay. Goodman's Application seeks an Interim Waiver from the DOE test provisions that require a 1.5-minute time delay between the ignition of the burner and starting of the circulating air blower. Instead, Goodman requests the allowance to test using a 30-second blower time delay when testing its GSU series central furnaces. Goodman states that the 30-second delay is indicative of how these furnaces actually operate. Such a delay results in an increase in AFUE of 1.0 percentage point. Since current DOE test procedures do not address this variable blower time delay, Goodman asks that the Interim Waiver be granted.

The Department has published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on August 23, 1993, (58 FR 44583) to amend the furnace test procedure, which addresses the above issue.

Previous Petitions for Waiver for this type of time blower delay control have been granted by DOE to Coleman Company, 50 FR 2710, January 18, 1985; Magic Chef Company, 50 FR 41553, October 11, 1985; Rheem Manufacturing Company, 53 FR 48574, December 1, 1988, 56 FR 2920, January 25, 1991, 57 FR 10166, March 24, 1992, 57 FR 34560, August 5, 1992; 59 FR 30577, June 14, 1994, and 59 FR 55470, November 7, 1994; Trane Company, 54 FR 19226, May 4, 1989, 56 FR 6021, February 14, 1991, 57 FR 10167, March 24, 1992, 57

FR 22222, May 27, 1992, 58 FR 68138, December 23, 1993, and 60 FR 62835, December 7, 1995; Lennox Industries, 55 FR 50224, December 5, 1990, 57 FR 49700, November 3, 1992, 58 FR 68136, December 23, 1993, and 58 FR 68137, December 23, 1993; Inter-City Products Corporation, 55 FR 51487, December 14, 1990, and 56 FR 63945, December 6, 1991; DMO Industries, 56 FR 4622, February 5, 1991, and 59 FR 30579, June 14, 1994; Heil-Quaker Corporation, 56 FR 6019, February 14, 1991; Carrier Corporation, 56 FR 6018, February 14, 1991, 57 FR 38830, August 27, 1992, 58 FR 68131, December 23, 1993, 58 FR 68133, December 23, 1993, 59 FR 14394, March 28, 1994, and 60 FR 62832, December 7, 1995; Amana Refrigeration Inc., 56 FR 27958, June 18, 1991, 56 FR 63940, December 6, 1991, 57 FR 23392, June 3, 1992, and 58 FR 68130, December 23, 1993; Snyder General Corporation, 56 FR 54960, September 9, 1991; Goodman Manufacturing Corporation, 56 FR 51713, October 15, 1991, 57 FR 27970, June 23, 1992 and 59 FR 12586, March 17, 1994; The Ducane Company Inc., 56 FR 63943, December 6, 1991, 57 FR 10163, March 24, 1992, and 58 FR 68134, December 23, 1993; Armstrong Air Conditioning, Inc., 57 FR 899, January 9, 1992, 57 FR 10160, March 24, 1992, 57 FR 10161, March 24, 1992, 57 FR 39193, August 28, 1992, 57 FR 54230, November 17, 1992, and 59 FR 30575, June 14, 1994; Thermo Products, Inc., 57 FR 903, January 9, 1992; Consolidated Industries Corporation, 57 FR 22220, May 27, 1992; Evcon Industries, Inc., 57 FR 47847, October 20, 1992, and 59 FR 46968, September 13, 1994; Bard Manufacturing Company, 57 FR 53733, November 12, 1992, and 59 FR 30578, June 14, 1994; and York International Corporation, 59 FR 46969, September 13, 1994, 60 FR 100, January 3, 1995, 60 FR 62834, December 7, 1995, and 60 FR 62837, December 7, 1995.

Thus, it appears likely that this Petition for Waiver for blower time delay will be granted. In those instances where the likely success of the Petition for Waiver has been demonstrated based upon DOE having granted a waiver for a similar product design, it is in the public interest to have similar products tested and rated for energy consumption on a comparable basis.

Therefore, based on the above, DOE is granting Goodman an Interim Waiver for its GSU series condensing furnaces. Goodman shall be permitted to test its GSU series condensing furnaces on the basis of the test procedures specified in Title 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B, Appendix N, with the modification set forth below:

(I) Section 3.0 in Appendix N is deleted and replaced with the following paragraph:

3.0 Test Procedure. Testing and measurements shall be as specified in Section 9 in ANSI/ASHRAE 103-82 with the exception of Sections 9.2.2, 9.3.1, and 9.3.2, and the inclusion of the following additional procedures:

(ii) Add a new paragraph 3.10 in Appendix N as follows:

3.10 Gas- and Oil-Fueled Central Furnaces. After equilibrium conditions are achieved following the cool-down test and the required measurements performed, turn on the furnace and measure the flue gas temperature, using the thermocouple grid described above, at 0.5 and 2.5 minutes after the main burner(s) comes on. After the burner start-up, delay the blower start-up by 1.5 minutes (t-) unless: (1) the furnace employs a single motor to drive the power burner and the indoor air circulation blower, in which case the burner and blower shall be started together; or (2) the furnace is designed to operate using an unvarying delay time that is other than 1.5 minutes, in which case the fan control shall be permitted to start the blower; or (3) the delay time results in the activation of a temperature safety device which shuts off the burner, in which case the fan control shall be permitted to start the blower. In the latter case, if the fan control is adjustable, set it to start the blower at the highest temperature. If the fan control is permitted to start the blower, measure time delay (t-) using a stop watch. Record the measured temperatures. During the heat-up test for oil-fueled furnaces, maintain the draft in the flue pipe within ± 0.01 inch of water column of the manufacturer's recommended on-period draft.

This Interim Waiver is based upon the presumed validity of statements and all allegations submitted by the company. This Interim Waiver may be removed or modified at any time upon a determination that the factual basis underlying the Application is incorrect.

The Interim Waiver shall remain in effect for a period of 180 days or until DOE acts on the Petition for Waiver, whichever is sooner, and may be extended for an additional 180-day period, if necessary.

Goodman's Petition for Waiver requests DOE to grant relief from the DOE furnace test procedure relating to the blower time delay specification. Goodman seeks to test using a blower delay time of 30 seconds for its GSU series condensing furnaces instead of the specified 1.5-minute delay between burner on-time and blower on-time. Pursuant to paragraph (b) of Title 10

CFR Part 430.27, DOE is hereby publishing the "Petition for Waiver" in its entirety. The Petition contains no confidential information. The Department solicits comments, data, and information respecting the Petition. Christine A. Ervin, Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

July 19, 1995.

Assistant Secretary, Conservation and Renewable Energy,
United States Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585

Re: Petition for Waiver and Application for Interim Waiver

Gentlemen: This is a Petition for Waiver and Application for Interim Waiver submitted pursuant to Title 10 CFR 430.27. Waiver is requested from the test procedure for measuring Furnace Energy Consumption as found in Appendix H to Subpart B of 430.

The current test procedure requires a 1.5 minute delay between burner ignition and the start of the circulating air blower. Goodman Manufacturing Co., L.P. is requesting waiver and authorization to use a 30 second delay instead of the specified 1.5 minutes for the blower to start after main burner ignition. Goodman Manufacturing intends to use a fixed timing control on our GSU series central furnaces to gain additional energy savings that are achieved with the use of shorter blower on times.

Test data for these furnaces with a 30 second day delay indicated an increase in AFUE of 1.0 percentage point. The use of a 30 second delay reduces the appliance flue losses and therefore increases the furnace efficiency. Copies of confidential test data confirming this energy savings will be provided to you at your request.

The current test procedure does not give Goodman Manufacturing credit for energy savings that can be obtained using fixed blower timings. The proposed ASHRAE 103-1988 that is under consideration by D.O.E. addresses the use of timed blower operation.

Goodman Manufacturing is confident that this Waiver will be granted, and therefore we request an Interim Waiver be granted until a final ruling is made. Goodman, as well as other manufacturers of domestic furnaces, have been granted similar waivers.

Manufacturers that domestically market similar products have been sent a copy of this Petition for Waiver and Application for Interim Waiver.

Sincerely,

Peter H. Alexander,
Executive Vice President.

[FR Doc. 96-1729 Filed 1-29-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P9

Office of Energy Research

Energy Research Financial Assistance Program Notice 96-06: Global Change Integrated Assessment Research

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).