

INF RSE-EUROPE

International Network for Sustainable Energy

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Biggest EU Energy Efficiency Regulation Finally in Force

PRESS RELEASE - 24 September 2015 – Inefficient home boilers, water heaters, and storage tanks will be phased-out by the EU from Saturday on, following new EU regulations for these products. The rules will boost sales of efficient equipment to save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In several countries, such as the UK, existing building regulations already ensure that most boilers sold are the more efficient condensing type, but now the condensing boilers will be mandatory throughout EU, except for certain houses where technical problems make the change too costly.

Like other Ecodesign regulations, the rules apply when buying new equipment, old equipment can stay until the end of its lifetime.

Besides the energy efficiency requirements, retailers will introduce an A++ to G scale energy label to highlight money-saving equipment. Installers will also start fitting A+++ to D labels that rate the efficiency of complete home heating systems, when replacing boilers in combination with, for instance, heating controls or solar heating.

In several countries, the new efficient boiler will often pay back in just one year for consumers; in countries with low gas prices the pay-back will be typically in a few years.

INFORSE-Europe have followed the process of developing EU-wide requirements and labelling for heating equipment since 2008. We are excited that this is now finally in force, and it will be able to reduce consumption of the largest energy consumer in households: the heating and hot-water system. Because a staggering 25% of all Europe's CO₂ emissions are from boilers and water heaters, this new regulation has the largest direct impact on energy consumption and emissions of any EU regulation so far. It is expected to lead to greenhouse gas reductions of 136 million tons CO₂ annually after a few years. It will also save the consumers billions of Euro in saved gas bills.

INFORSE-Europe is a network of 75 NGOs working for the transition to 100% renewable energy. We work on EU Ecodesign within the Coolproducts campaign, a coalition of European NGOs working to ensure that Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Directives work harder for Europeans and the environment. www.coolproducts.eu

For more details, see <http://www.coolproducts.eu/product/boilers>

For further comments, information on INFORSE-Europe's positions to EU energy policies, see www.inforse.org/europe or call INFORSE-Europe ph. (+45) 86227000 or the coordinator Gunnar Boye Olesen, Mobile. (+45)-42300192, ove@inforse.org.