

Regional Standards—They aren't dead, and we can't forget about them just yet.

On May 1, 2013, an emergency Motion to Stay was granted by a U.S. Court of Appeals in the ongoing Regional Standards lawsuit. This motion legally forbids the Department of Energy (DOE) from enforcing the furnace standard in the Northern Region while legal proceedings continue to challenge the validity of the Regional Standards rule making process. The new standards had been scheduled to take effect on May 1, 2013.

It's important to remember that the court has NOT made a final ruling on the validity of the Regional Standards.

If the court rules in our favor, the DOE can then choose to go through the entire rule making process again, but this time they will have to do it in strict accordance with the processes that govern how such rules and regulations are drafted, approved, implemented, and enforced.

The worst case scenario would be if the court does eventually rule in favor of the Regional Standards, per the May 1, 2013, Motion to Stay, there would be a six month delay before the DOE could begin enforcing the standard.