

Regulatory Advisory

October 8, 2018

Commercial and Industrial Air Compressors

Background

The California Appliance Efficiency Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Sections 1601 to 1609) contain definitions and a test method for federally regulated commercial and industrial air compressors.

This Advisory clarifies that there are no testing requirements or other requirements to be met for commercial and industrial air compressors for lawful sale in California at this time. Section 1602(a) of the Appliance Efficiency Regulations contains a definition for “federally regulated commercial and industrial equipment.” According to this definition, to be considered federally regulated commercial and industrial equipment, both a test method and energy conservation standard must exist for that equipment type. A federal test method exists for air compressors; however, there are no energy conservation standards for this equipment type. Because of this, air compressors do not meet the criteria to be under the scope of the Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulations. Regarding certification to the Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System (MAEDbS), there is language in sections 1606(a) and 1608(a), which states that there are no certification requirements for commercial and industrial air compressors.

Air compressors will remain excluded from the scope of the Appliance Efficiency Regulations until either a federal energy conservation standard for air compressors is adopted and effective, or until a separate state energy conservation standard is adopted in a rulemaking. The Energy Commission has an open rulemaking that proposes to establish state efficiency standards for commercial and industrial air compressors (See [Docket # 18-AAER-05](#) [Appliance Efficiency Standards Pre-Rulemaking for Commercial and Industrial Air Compressors].) If state standards are adopted in this rulemaking, additional guidance on the requirements will be provided.

For more information

To obtain a copy of the regulations or other related compliance assistance documents, visit the Appliance Efficiency Program website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/appliances>. Additional questions may be addressed by calling the Appliances Title 20 Compliance Assistance Call Center, toll free inside California at (888) 838-1467, or outside California at (916) 651-7100, or by emailing appliances@energy.ca.gov.