

ISSUE BRIEF |

Final Rule: DOE pushes compliance date to July 2020 on new energy consumption standards for certain walk-in coolers/freezers

7.18.17

What change(s) were approved in the final rule?

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has extended the deadline by when members must meet new energy consumption standards for certain walk-in coolers/freezers to July 2020 – three years later than the DOE previously ruled. This change was driven, in part, by communication from NAFEM and other organizations that successfully conveyed the industry’s concerns about the previous deadline of June 2017.

What organization is implementing the amendment?

The U.S. Department of Energy (www.energy.gov), under the authority of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, implemented this change as part of its mission to “ensure America’s security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions.”

How will the amendment impact my business?

NAFEM members who manufacture walk-in coolers/freezers using components covered under the final rule need to meet the new energy consumption standards by July 2020. This latest final rule does not change the [amended rule](#) from February 2017 that clarified testing procedures and definitions for certain components, including panels and doors, and established labeling requirements for covered equipment.

NAFEM members who manufacture walk-in coolers/freezers using components covered under the rule should carefully review the final rule to understand how it impacts their businesses to ensure they are in compliance by July 2020.

Complete details about the latest final rule are available [here](#). NAFEM does not anticipate any further amendments to this final rule, but we will update members if any are issued.

What did NAFEM do to help address the industry’s needs in the final rule?

DOE indicated that this revised date was the result of negotiated rulemaking with a variety of stakeholders, including manufacturers represented by NAFEM and other groups. NAFEM actively and aggressively conveyed the industry’s concerns about the proposed changes in partnership with the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI). NAFEM also formed coalitions with stakeholders and operators from a variety of industries, and helped member companies get involved to secure this deadline extension.

Who should I contact with questions?

For questions on this topic, please contact Charlie Souhrada, CFSP, NAFEM’s vice president, regulatory & technical affairs: csouhrada@nafem.org or 312.821.0201.