



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor



OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY

To: Oregon Wood and Pellet Stove Retailers

From: Suzanne C. Dillard, Conservation Services Manager

Date: February 14, 2008

RE: Oregon Residential Energy Tax Credit

The Oregon Department of Energy has received a number of tax credit applications for wood and pellet stoves that are not on the Oregon Department of Energy's list of qualifying wood and pellet stoves. Some of these stoves have too high of smoke emissions to qualify or do not have a dedicated outside air source as required by law and must be denied a tax credit.

Working with the Oregon Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association (OHPBA), we recognize that some models of stoves may be clean burning, but have not been fully tested by the EPA or listed on the EPA list that we use for our qualifying list. The Oregon Department of Energy is working with OHPBA to create a process to ensure these stoves are tested by an EPA lab and emissions are certified.

We anticipate that more pellet stoves will be added to our qualifying list in the future. In addition, we have asked the EPA to notify us of obsolete wood and pellet stove qualifying models that are on the list, but are no longer available in retail stores for customers. These old and often discontinued models confuse and frustrate customers and retailers.

We are holding applications of non-qualifying models until we are able to resolve the problems. We recognize that this is tax season and apologize for the inconvenience to your customers. We are working as quickly as possible to resolve this situation.

In the meantime, we need your help. We continue to get reports from customers that they were told that by their retailers that all models qualify. We ask that retailers check the Oregon Department of Energy Web site for the current list of eligible models ([www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/CONS/RES/tax/WoodStoves.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/CONS/RES/tax/WoodStoves.shtml)) and ONLY promote those stoves as eligible for the tax credit.

We've had some questions regarding the tax credit requirement for dedicated outside air. Many new stoves provide for direct outside air connection or an optional kit for outside air. If the stove has the direct connection option, this is the preferred solution since it is the most energy efficient and minimizes the problem of backdrafting. If a stove does not have a direct connection, we suggest a duct near the hearth or a through-the-wall vent with a backdraft damper, such as a Condar ASV.

Please contact Dave Brook, Residential Energy Analyst, at 1-800-221-8035 or (503) 378-4040 or by e-mail [dave.brook@state.or.us](mailto:dave.brook@state.or.us) if you have any concerns.