Commercial Water Heating Standards Ruling 2026

U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY

Effective October 6, 2026



Lochinvar®
HIGH EFFICIENCY BOILERS & WATER HEATERS

DOE RULING SETS A NATIONAL CONDENSING STANDARD FOR GAS-FIRED PRODUCTS

The Department of Energy's (DOE) new minimum efficiency standards for commercial water heaters will go into effect on **October 6, 2026**. These new regulations are part of DOE's efforts to reduce overall energy consumption in the United States.

The new standards will require that only high-efficiency (condensing) gas commercial water heaters can be manufactured or imported into the United States **on and after October 6, 2026**.

* All Lochinvar condensing water heaters meet the new standard.*



- Gas Instantaneous Standard (Commercial Tankless and Circulating)
  - Minimum Thermal Efficiency (TE) increased from 80% to 96%
  - No change in standby loss requirements

- Gas Storage Standard (Commercial Tank-Type)
  - Minimum TE increased from 80% to 95%
  - Standby loss requirements are 14% more stringent

- Gas Residential-Duty Storage Standard (Commercial Light-Duty)
  - Uniform Energy Factor (UEF) minimum of 0.9297
  - Mid-level condensing

What does this mean for Lochinvar products?

The listed non-condensing products will be discontinued with the DOE effectivity date:

- Power-Fin®
- Copper-Fin®
- Copper-Fin II®
- Chargers

Compliance is based on rating plate. Any of the affected products listed above manufactured prior to October 6, 2026 can be sold from inventory or installed.



Gas Instantaneous Standard (Commercial Tankless and Circulating)

Non-Compliant



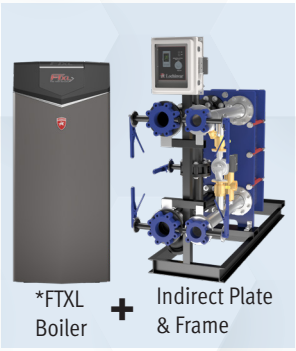
Compliant - Replacement Suggestions



XCalibur™ Tankless

Armor®

Regent™ Tankless



*FTXL Boiler + Indirect Plate & Frame

Boilers can be condensing or non-condensing

Commercial Gas Standard (Commercial Tank-Type)

Non-Compliant



Ultra Low NOx Light Commercial

Multi-Flue Charger

Ultra Low NOx Charger

* 75,000 Btu/Hr and greater*

Compliant - Replacement Suggestions



Shield®

35-50 Series

Armor® & Tank

XCalibur™ Tankless

Gas Residential-Duty Storage Standard (Commercial Light-Duty)

Non-Compliant



Large Capacity

Power Vent

Power Direct Vent

* 75,000 Btu/Hr and greater*

Compliant - Replacement Suggestions



High Value Condensing

35-50 Series

XCalibur™ Tankless

CAUTION: Category I, B-Vent material is not allowed for use with condensing products. Retrofit and replacement jobs will require special venting considerations. For application related questions, please contact your Lochinvar Sales Representative.

THOUGHTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- Evaluate the mechanical room's available space - what kind of footprint is available? Are there adequate service clearances?
- What vent material is present? Can the venting method be altered / relocated? What is the combustion air requirement?
- Where is the mechanical room located? How wide are the doorways? Is there a freight elevator present for a rooftop installation?
- What payback expectations do the building owners have? What technology should be used? Condensing water heaters, heat pump water heaters, package solutions, non-condensing or condensing boiler with plate and frame heat exchanger? Gas? Electric?
- What other standards, codes, regulations are applicable?



NO ONE BRINGS IT ALL TOGETHER LIKE LOCHINVAR

With the industry's broadest product line and support network of expert manufacturers' and sales representatives -- No one brings it all together like Lochinvar. For retrofit/replacement or new construction water heating solutions, we have you covered.

CONTINUED COMMITTMENT:

Lochinvar will be launching new products that will enhance our current DOE complaint product offering. Lochinvar will continue to provide parts and support for all existing units in the field and those manufactured prior to October 6, 2026. For additional information regarding parts and warranty on these units, please contact your local Lochinvar representative.