2023 Regulatory Changes: SOUTHEAST



New energy efficiency and testing standards for residential air conditioners and heat pumps take effect across the United States in 2023. The Department of Energy (DOE) is implementing a new test procedure to simulate higher static pressure and align more closely to real-world duct systems. Beginning in 2023, the new metrics for efficiency will be referred to as SEER2, EER2 and HSPF2. Here's how they compare:

2023 RATING*					
0.95	х	SEER	*	SEER2	
0.96	х	EER	*	EER2	
0.85	Х	HSPF	~	HSPF2	



REQUIRES 100% OF AHRI MATCHES RETESTED AND RELAUNCHED

On January 1, 2023, all residential products 5-tons and under are required to have published ratings using the new test metrics. The AHRI certificate will list SEER2, EER2, and HSPF2. Any models with SEER, EER, HSPF only will be marked production stopped. Production stopped certificates are available for one year, per established AHRI practices.

*Approximation based on single stage coil only system, actual performance will vary based on system type and components.

EFFICIENCY STANDARDS IN THE SOUTHEAST

Minimum efficiency levels are increasing for both air conditioners and heat pumps; however the air conditioner enforcement date will be based on date of installation. All other product types, including heat pumps, must be compliant based on date of manufacture. Minimum efficiency levels will not change for residential packaged units, but they will be retested with the new metrics.

Units Installed After December 31, 2022

Minimum Efficiency For Units Installed In This Region				
45,000 BTUH or less				
Split Air Conditioners	15 SEER 14.3 SEER2			
Greater than 45,000 BTUH				
Split Air Conditioners	14.5 SEER 13.8 SEER2			
65,000 BTUH or less				
Split System Heat Pumps	15 SEER, 8.8 HSPF 14.3 SEER2, 7.5 HSPF2			

Sell-Through of Pre-2023 Inventory

- Air conditioners below 2023 minimum requirements must be **installed by** December 31, 2022
- All air conditioners installed on or after January 1, 2023 must meet new efficiency levels (no sell through period)
- Heat pumps that do not meet the new efficiency levels may be installed indefinitely if manufactured before January 1, 2023