

Episode 56G M a July 26, 2023. What are 10 state Attorney Generals threatening to see the EPA about in August 2023?

If the EPA, under the Biden Administration, answered New York Attorney General and 8 other state regulator's requests for changes in indoor residential wood burning stove certification in 2021 by 12/31/2021 (see Episode 56G M a), what are 10 state Attorney Generals threatening to see the EPA about in August 2023?

What are 10 state Attorney Generals threatening to sue the EPA regarding wood stove certification by August 2023? The states who sent requests for change in wood stove certification to the EPA in 2021 were an Attorney General from New York state, and regulators from Alaska, California, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, and Washington. In 2023 the states' Attorney Generals threatening to sue the EPA are from Alaska, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington. The 5 states that both sent letters to the EPA in 2021 and threatened to sue in 2023 are Alaska, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, and Washington state. The 5 states that are threatening to sue the EPA in 2023 that did not request changes in wood stove certification in 2021 are Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, and Vermont.

The editor of RAWSEPresidents asked Bard Artificial Intelligence Chatbot today: What are 10 state Attorney Generals threatening to sue the EPA regarding wood stove certification by August 2023?

Bard answered: On June 29, 2023, 10 state attorneys general sent a notice of intent to sue the EPA regarding wood stove certification. The states allege that the EPA has failed to review and ensure emissions standards for residential wood-burning stoves, which has allowed the continued sale of appliances that could worsen pollution.

The states specifically allege that the EPA:

Has not updated the emissions standards for residential wood-burning stoves since 1988.

Has not adequately enforced the existing emissions standards.

Has not ensured that the testing and certification program for residential wood-burning stoves is effective.

The states argue that the EPA's failure to take action has allowed the continued sale of wood-burning stoves that emit harmful pollutants, such as fine particulate matter (PM2.5), carbon monoxide (CO), and nitrogen oxides (NOx). These pollutants can cause respiratory problems, heart disease, and cancer.

The states are seeking a court order requiring the EPA to take action to update the emissions standards for residential wood-burning stoves, enforce the existing standards, and ensure that the testing and certification program is effective.

The 10 state attorneys generals sent the notice of intent to sue. The EPA has not yet responded to the notice of intent to sue.

What are the 10 Attorneys General not doing that RAWSEPresidents would like them to do? RAWSEP would like the Attorney Generals to consider asking the E P A stop certifying all indoor residential wood stoves entirely, and replace certification of wood stoves as "safe" when burning wood for heat is highly polluting, emitting higher levels of PM2.5 and CO2 than coal burning, with a complaint based system using PM2.5 monitors in the yards of near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners. Wood burning also emits 450 times the PM2.5 as natural gas burning. PM2.5 is particulate matter of 2.5 micrometer size, the perfect size to infiltrate the human lung, setting off a cascade of human health problems and early deaths? The EPA does not certify any residential coal burning stove as "safe" for indoor residential heating, even though coal burning is less polluting than wood burning.

There is also the 7/22/2023 example of London Mayor rescinding his approval of the Ecodesign wood burning stove, considered the "safest" wood burning stove in the United Kingdom. This rescission of approval in London, England, is equivalent to the United States rescinding wood stove certification across the United States. In London, England, PM2.5 from indoor residential wood burning stoves exceeds PM2.5 emissions from traffic, although less than 9% of the population of London uses wood stoves for residential heating. People in London have experienced the adverse health effects of being forced to live with wood smoke that threatens even simple breathing, which everyone knows is essential to life. If you can't breathe, nothing else matters.

In the United States in the past few months, hundreds of millions of Americans have experienced overwhelming wood smoke that drives them indoor to cope as well as they can by running multiple air purifiers in a house sealed against outside air. This is what near neighbors of residential wood burners have experienced in hyper-localized areas with no respite from government authorities. There should be a federal system, to ensure, from the top down, that the scientific data from PM2.5 monitors, low-cost PurpleAir PM2.5 monitors, that are also located on U S E P A Airnow Maps of Smoke and Fire alongside official E P A PM2.5 monitors costing \$100,000, correlated with those monitors with a simple mathematical formula.

Replacements of wood burning stoves for health reasons and for slowing climate change are also occurring in Africa through efforts of charitable organizations and in some areas of South America by local governments, such as in the city of Bogota, Columbia.

Stopping certification of all wood stoves as “safe” in the United States will also undoubtedly save the United States money. Salaries for wood stove certifying who are not doing their job, and have not been doing their job since 1988. Subsidies to the wood stove industry since 1988. Subsidies for expensive and futile Carbon Capture technologies aimed at wood stoves since 1988. It would be interesting but depressing to see the monetary waste put into wood stove certification in the United States since 1988. That money in 2023, instead of going toward wood stove certification, could be redirected to developing real clean energy, with no emission, such as wind, solar and geothermal energy, and a smart electric grid that extends into all rural areas of the United States. Subsidies for Heat Pumps that work at temperatures down to 40 degrees below zero Fahrenheit. The E P A should honestly deal with ending destruction of human health and acceleration of climate change by use of indoor residential wood burning.

The Ask: Please Contact 10 Attorneys General about an August 2023 suit versus E P A asking for “certainty” for wood stove users. RAWSEP asks for a complaint based system based on PM2.5 monitor data exceeding E P A PM2.5 “safe” limits, using fence line measurements at yards of near neighbors.

A new icon has been added to the RAWSEP Website, which is now the nearest right icon. The icon is an ask that has already been described in Episodes 56GB (description of the parties who should be at the table when deciding on “safe” wood stove emission limits and fence line measurements, rather than wood stove certification) and 56GBa (emails to contact 10 Attorneys General) (those two PDFs are included at the icon link). <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-please-contact-10-attorneys-general-about-august-2023-suit-versus-e-p-a-asking-for-certainty-for-wood-stove-users-rawsep-asks-for-complaint-based-sytem-based-on-pm2-5-monitor-data-exceeding-e-p/>

Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates, see <https://RAWSEPresidents.wordpress.com> and click on the nearest right icon for The Ask: Contact 10 Attorneys General <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-please-contact-10-attorneys-general-about-august-2023-suit-versus-e-p-a-asking-for-certainty-for-wood-stove-users-rawsep-asks-for-complaint-based-sytem-based-on-pm2-5-monitor-data-exceeding-e-p/> To the right of that “Barbie Goes To The Dating Game” <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-barbie-goes-to-the-dating-game/> To the right of that <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-barbie-goes-to-the-dating-game/a/> , then to the right of that, the latest month, July 2023, of PDFs of articles with U R L’s to search on <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-july-2023-pdfs-of-urls/> To the right of that, Stickers to handout for RAWSEP, Games such as 1)Bingo for RAWSEP, 2)Crosswords for RAWSEP, 3)EndWoodSmokeJeopardy. 4)EndWoodSmokeMonopoly 5)"Vending Machines for PM2.5 monitors", and icon links to 30 minute Youtube videos and Spotify podcasts as well as podcasts o<https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-july-2023-pdfshttps://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-july-2023-pdfs-of-urls/>y free on the phone App. Pocket Cast works on Apple phones) and, below those icons, icon links to monthly Urls of PDFs from June 2023 to May 2022.

Dear 10 Attorneys General suing the EPA to provide clarity to indoor residential wood stove owners on certification of their currently used, and currently polluting, appliances

The states involved are Alaska, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington, as well as the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

Contact emails or website contact forms for 10 Attorney Generals

[attorney.general@alaska.gov](mailto:attorney.general@alaska.gov) Alaska AG email

[Ej@ilag.gov](mailto:Ej@ilag.gov) Illinois AG Environmental Justice email

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=aS8vZtduuUyYS38EGbmpnMoks4scrNjirDI80VWIO5UNIY2N0IWNOJQSFVaQkRVNEtOVzFCRIZCRC4u> Maryland AG online contact form

<https://massago.hylandcloud.com/203appnet/UnityForm.aspx?key=UFKey> Massachusetts AG online contact form

<https://www.ag.state.mn.us/Office/Forms/ConsumerAssistanceRequest.asp> Minnesota AG Consumer Assistance

<https://www.njoag.gov/contact/office-of-constituent-services/> New Jersey AG Constituent Services online contact form

<https://njconsumeraffairs.state.nj.us/file-a-complaint/?stepid=b41bbbe8-6869-ea11-80fa-005056906006&sessionid=402d38f5-4c22-ee11-80d5-005056ba24cd> New Jersey AG general consumer complaint not price gouging online contact form

<https://ag.ny.gov/contact-attorney-general-letitia-james> New York AG online contact form

[AttorneyGeneral@doj.state.or](mailto:AttorneyGeneral@doj.state.or) .us Oregon AG email

<https://ago.vermont.gov/contact-form> Vermont AG online contact form

<https://fortress.wa.gov/atg/formhandler/ago/ContactForm.aspx> Washington AG online contact form

Episode 56G M b July 26, 2023. A June 8, 2021, response from the EPA to New York State Attorney General Letitia James.

A June 8, 2021, letter from the EPA to New York state Attorney General Leticia James stated that she had asked the EPA in a letter dated May 21, 2022, to revoke Alternative Test Methods 125 and 127. The EPA stated that they had also received requests to revoke ATM-125 and ATM-127 from regulators in Alaska, California, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, and Washington in a letter dated April 28, 2021.

In 2023 there are 10 Attorney Generals threatening to sue the E P A to take quicker action to change some rules regarding indoor residential wood burning. Those Attorney Generals are from the previously mentioned 9 states with the addition in 2023 of Vermont's Attorney General.

On June 8, 2023, in response to the one Attorney General from New York and regulators from 8 other states, the EPA said that the EPA approved Alternative Test Method 140 (ATM-140), and in addition, the EPA is considering an Integrated Duty Cycle (IDC) test protocol for indoor residential wood burning stoves.

The editor of RAWSEPresidents asked for clarification from BARD Artificial Intelligence Chatbot and summarizes Bard's response here and then follows with the entire Bard response.

1)what does it mean to request that EPA revoke alternative test methods 125 and 127?

The methods were too flexible and could be used to pass any appliance, regardless of its design. The methods did not accurately measure the actual emissions from wood heaters. The methods were not supported by sufficient scientific data.

2)what does it mean that the EPA has approved ATM-140?

Here are some of the benefits of ATM-140:

It is more accurate than the previous methods for measuring wood heater emissions. It measures a wider range of pollutants, including PM2.5, CO, and NOx. It is a laboratory-based method, which means that it can be used to test any type of wood heater.

3)what does it mean for the EPA to use an IDC test protocol?

Here are some of the benefits of the IDC test protocol:

It is more realistic and representative of actual wood heater emissions.

It measures a wider range of pollutants, including PM2.5, CO, and NOx.

It is a more accurate method for measuring wood heater emissions.

1)what does it mean to request that EPA revoke alternative test methods 125 and 127?

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) approved alternative test methods 125 and 127 in 2018. These methods were used to certify residential wood heaters pursuant to 40 CFR part 60, subpart AAA. However, in 2021, the EPA received a request from the State of Alaska and several other state environmental programs to revoke these methods. The states argued that the methods were too flexible and could be used to pass any appliance, regardless of its design. They also argued that the methods did not accurately measure the actual emissions from wood heaters.

The EPA reviewed the states' request and concluded that there was merit to their concerns. On December 21, 2021, the EPA announced that it would be withdrawing alternative test methods 125 and 127.

The withdrawal of these methods means that manufacturers of residential wood heaters will no longer be able to use them to certify their products. This could lead to stricter emissions standards for wood heaters, which would help to reduce air pollution.

Here are some of the reasons why the EPA revoked alternative test methods 125 and 127:

The methods were too flexible and could be used to pass any appliance, regardless of its design.

The methods did not accurately measure the actual emissions from wood heaters.

The methods were not supported by sufficient scientific data.

2) what does it mean that the EPA has approved ATM-140?

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has approved ATM-140, a new method for testing the emissions of wood heaters. ATM-140 is a more accurate and rigorous method than the previous methods that were used, and it is expected to lead to stricter emissions standards for wood heaters.

ATM-140 was developed by the EPA and the California Air Resources Board (CARB). It is a laboratory-based method that uses a controlled environment to measure the emissions of wood heaters. The method is more accurate than the previous methods because it measures a wider range of pollutants, including fine particulate matter (PM2.5), carbon monoxide (CO), and nitrogen oxides (NOx).

Here are some of the benefits of ATM-140:

It is more accurate than the previous methods for measuring wood heater emissions.

It measures a wider range of pollutants, including PM2.5, CO, and NOx.

It is a laboratory-based method, which means that it can be used to test any type of wood heater.

3) what does it mean for the EPA to use an IDC test protocol?

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) uses an IDC (Integrated Duty Cycle) test protocol to measure the emissions of wood heaters. The IDC test protocol is a more realistic and representative test of wood heater emissions than the previous methods that were used.

The IDC test protocol simulates the typical operating conditions of a wood heater in a home. It measures the emissions of the wood heater over a range of operating conditions, including different types of fuel, different burn rates, and different levels of airflow.

The IDC test protocol is more accurate than the previous methods for measuring wood heater emissions because it simulates the actual conditions in which wood heaters are used. This means that the results of the IDC test protocol are more likely to reflect the actual emissions of wood heaters in homes.

Here are some of the benefits of the IDC test protocol:

It is more realistic and representative of actual wood heater emissions.

It measures a wider range of pollutants, including PM2.5, CO, and NOx.

It is a more accurate method for measuring wood heater emissions.

World

[Combo of extreme heat, air pollution may increase risk of deadly heart attack: study](#)

Global News

When you add PM 2.5 particles to the mix, such as ones you find in wildfires, “they both are having an effect on the blood vessels and heart. And the ...

United States

[Environmental Risk Factors Can Double Heart Attack Chances This Summer - Men's Journal](#)

Men's Journal

Much of the PM 2.5 pollution stems from combustion of oil, ... by the presence of particulate matter, which are tiny particles of smoke, dust, ...

United States

[Extreme heat in US is killing people, threatening coral reefs and fueling wildfires that ... - WSIL](#)

WSIL

“The air quality is being impacted by the presence of fine particulate matter (PM-2.5).” In addition to the poor air quality, Detroit is also ...

New York, Long Island

[Updated: Air Quality Health Advisory Issued for Long Island Region](#)

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

reduce or eliminate outdoor burning and attempt to minimize indoor sources of PM 2.5 such as smoking. A toll-free Air Quality Hotline (1-800-535-1345) ...

New York, New York City

[New York City DEP sets record straight on pizzeria regulations to help curb pollution](#)

ABC7 New York

But because those ovens burn wood and coal, the smoke contains dangerous particulate matter -- like the Canadian wildfire smoke, but for those in ...

New York, New York City

[Fire causes NYC construction crane's arm to collapse and crash to street - WUSA9](#)

WUSA9

... snapped off after the fire had been burning for a period of time. ... No, New York City isn't banning coal or wood-fired pizza ovens ..

Wyoming.

[Logging contributes large amounts of carbon dioxide to atmosphere, study finds](#)

Wyoming Public Media

"People need to be aware of [and] stop pretending, declaring contrary to any physical reality, that harvesting and burning wood somehow doesn't ...

Europe

[Ammonia reduction should be prioritized in Europe's fight against air pollution - Newswise](#)

Newswise

Pollution particles of less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter in the air around us, also known as fine particles or PM2.5, is one of the leading ...

Europe

[Ammonia reduction should be prioritized in Europe's fight against air pollution, says study](#)

Phys.org

... of fine particulate matter concentrations in the atmosphere. ... nitrogen (Nr) emission control effectiveness targeting PM2.5 abatement. a, ...

The Netherlands, The Hague

[A freighter carrying nearly 3000 cars catches fire in the North Sea and a crew member is killed](#)

WOODTV.com

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — A fire on a freight ship carrying nearly 3,000 cars was burning out of control Wednesday in the North Sea, ...

India

[India's Air Pollution Challenge Spans Rural and Urban Areas - NRDC](#)

NRDC

A recent report by Climate Trends reveals high levels of fine particulate matter (PM2.5)—one of the most dangerous forms of air ...

PM2.5 and Human Health Effects

[Air pollution + extreme heat = double the risk of a heart attack - AirQualityNews](#)

AirQualityNews

... levels of PM2.5 air pollution were significantly associated with the risk of death from a heart attack, especially in women and older adults.

PM2.5 and Human Health Effects

[Extreme heat and air pollution doubles chance for fatal heart attacks, study finds](#)

FOX Weather

This graphic compares a human hair to fine sand, PM 10 and PM 2.5 particles. (Environmental Protection Agency / FOX Weather). "Particulate matter ...

PM2.5 and Human Health Effects

[Extreme heat and air pollution doubles chance for fatal heart attacks, study finds - Yahoo News](#)

Yahoo News

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