

clearSkies certified appliances meet the minimum performance level for Ecodesign Regulations – the minimum legal requirement for an appliance manufactured in the UK from 1st January 2022.

Efficiency & emissions criteria

The Ecodesign Regulations cover specific minimum criteria that an appliance must achieve under set test conditions, which are independently run.

These criteria are the minimum energy efficiency of the appliance and the maximum levels of emissions permitted of:

- CO – Carbon Dioxide
- PM – Particulate Matter
- OGC – Organic Gaseous Compounds
- NOx – Nitrogen Oxide

These new Ecodesign Regulations represent a significant tightening of these criteria over the current CE requirements.

Defra Exemption

In addition to meeting the requirements of Ecodesign for efficiency and emissions, all clearSkies certified appliances at Level 3 or above will also have been verified by the scheme administrator as meeting the requirements for Defra Exemption.

Defra Exemption is where an appliance's emissions have been independently tested and are low enough that Defra has granted exemption to allow the appliance to be burnt with wood in a Smoke Control Area.

All Level 3 and above appliances certified under the clearSkies scheme have been verified by the clearSkies Administrator, Kiwa Ltd, as complying with both the Ecodesign efficiency and emissions performance requirements, and Defra Exemption and as having the appropriate independent test certificates in place to confirm this.

Ecodesign compliance

Furthermore, all manufacturers with appliances certified under the clearSkies scheme have had all their emission and efficiency performance data in respect of their Ecodesign compliance and CE mark verified, and the manufacturers have self-certified to clearSkies that they have complied with all other aspects of Ecodesign and CE mark compliance.

clearSkies Levels explained

A clearSkies label on a wood burning appliance means you can be assured that the appliance you are buying meets all the energy and efficiency criteria, and the different levels allow you to identify how far beyond Ecodesign criteria they go in terms of reducing emissions and increasing efficiency. This is set out in the different levels of clearSkies certification which are:.



clearSkies Levels explained



Ecodesign compliant but NOT listed as Defra exempt



Ecodesign compliant (e.g. previously SIA Ecodesign Ready) AND Defra exempt



15% improvement on Ecodesign; AND Defra exempt



15% improvement in emissions & efficiency performance on Level 4; AND Defra exempt