1.5-minute time delay between the ignition of the burner and the starting of the circulating air blower. Bard requests the allowance to test using a 30-second blower time delay when testing its TU and TDH series furnaces. Bard states that since the 30-second delay is indicative of how these models actually operate, and since such a delay results in an improvement in AFUE of an average 0.4 to 0.6 percent, the Petition should be granted.

Under specific circumstances, the DOE test procedure contains exceptions which allow testing with blower delay times of less than the prescribed 1.5-minute delay. Bard indicates that it is unable to take advantage of any of these exceptions for its TU and TDH series furnaces.

Since the blower controls incorporated on the Bard furnaces are designed to impose a 30-second blower delay in every instance of start up, and since the current test procedure provisions do not specifically address this type of control, DOE agrees that a waiver should be granted to allow the 30-second blower time delay when testing the Bard TU and TDH series furnaces. Accordingly, with regard to testing the TU and TDH series furnaces, today's Decision and Order exempts Bard from the existing test procedure provisions regarding blower controls and allows testing with the 30-second delay.

It is, therefore, ordered that:

(1) The ''Petition for Waiver'' filed by Bard Manufacturing Company (Case No. F–086) is hereby granted as set forth in paragraph (2) below, subject to the provisions of paragraphs (3), (4), and (5).

(2) Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Appendix N of 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B, Bard Manufacturing Company, shall be permitted to test its TU and TDH series furnaces on the basis of the test procedure specified in 10 CFR Part 430, with modifications set forth below:

(i) Section 3.0 of Appendix N is deleted and replaced with the following paragraph:

3.0 Test Procedure. Testing and measurements shall be as specified in section 9 in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 103–82 with the exception of sections 9.2.2, 9.3.1, and 9.3.2, and the inclusion of the following additional procedures:

(ii) Add a new paragraph 3.10 to Appendix N as follows:

3.10 Gas- and Oil-Fueled Central Furnaces. The following paragraph is in lieu of the requirement specified in section 9.3.1 of ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 103–82. After equilibrium conditions are achieved following the cool-down test and the required measurements performed, turn on the furnace and measure the flue gas temperature, using the thermocouple grid described above, at 0.5 and 2.5 minutes after the main burner(s) comes on. After the burner start-up, delay the blower start-up by 1.5 minutes (t-), unless: (1) the furnace employs a single motor to drive the power burner and the indoor air circulating blower, in which case the burner and blower shall be started together; or (2) the furnace is designed to operate using an unvarying delay time that is other than 1.5 minutes, in which case the fan control shall be permitted to start the blower; or (3) the delay time results in the activation of a temperature safety device which shuts off the burner, in which case the fan control shall be permitted to start the blower. In the latter case, if the fan control is adjustable, set it to start the blower at the highest temperature. If the fan control is permitted to start the blower, measure time delay, (t-), using a stopwatch. Record the measured temperatures. During the heat-up test for oil-fueled furnaces, maintain the draft in the flue pipe within ±0.01 inch of water column of the manufacturer's recommended on-period draft.

(iii) With the exception of the modifications set forth above, Bard Manufacturing Company shall comply in all respects with the test procedures specified in Appendix N of 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B.

(3) The Waiver shall remain in effect from the date of issuance of this Order until DOE prescribes final test procedures appropriate to the TU and TDH series furnaces manufactured by Bard Manufacturing Company.

(4) This Waiver is based upon the presumed validity of statements, allegations, and documentary materials submitted by the petitioner. This Waiver may be revoked or modified at any time upon a determination that the factual basis underlying the Petition is incorrect.

(5) Effective September 19, 1996, this Waiver supersedes the Interim Waiver granted Bard Manufacturing Company on June 13, 1996. 61 FR 32790, June 25, 1996 (Case No. F–086).

Issued In Washington, DC, on September 19, 1996.

Christine A. Ervin,

Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 96–24809 Filed 9–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Granting of the Application for Interim Waiver and Publishing of the Petition for Waiver of Rheem Manufacturing Company from the DOE Furnace Test Procedure. (Case No. F–087)

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Today's notice grants an Interim Waiver to Rheem Manufacturing Company (Rheem) from the existing Department of Energy (DOE or Department) test procedure regarding blower time delay for the company's GLH downflow and GPH upflow/horizontal series furnaces.

Today's notice also publishes a ''Petition for Waiver'' from Rheem. Rheem's Petition for Waiver requests DOE to grant relief from the DOE furnace test procedure relating to the blower time delay specification. Rheem seeks to test using a blower delay time of 12 seconds for its GLH downflow and GPH upflow/horizontal series furnaces instead of the specified 1.5-minute delay between burner on-time and blower on-time. The Department is soliciting comments, data, and information respecting the Petition for Waiver.

DATES: DOE will accept comments, data, and information not later than October 28, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and statements shall be sent to: Department of Energy, Office of Codes and Standards, Case No. F–087, Mail Stop EE–43, Room 1J–018, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586–7140.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cyrus H. Nasseri, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Mail Station EE–431, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20585–0121, (202) 586–9138.

Eugene Margolis, Esq., U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel, Mail Station GC–72, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20585–0103, (202) 586–9507.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products (other than automobiles) was established pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended (EPCA), which requires DOE to prescribe standardized test

procedures to measure the energy consumption of certain consumer products, including furnaces. The intent of the test procedures is to provide a comparable measure of energy consumption that will assist consumers in making purchasing decisions. These test procedures appear at Title 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B.

The Department amended the test procedure rules to provide for a waiver process by adding Section 430.27 to Title 10 CFR Part 430. 45 FR 64108, September 26, 1980. Subsequently, DOE amended the waiver process to allow the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (Assistant Secretary) to grant an Interim Waiver from test procedure requirements to manufacturers that have petitioned DOE for a waiver of such prescribed test procedures. Title 10 CFR Part 430, Section 430.27(a)(2).

The waiver process allows the Assistant Secretary to waive temporarily test procedures for a particular basic model when a petitioner shows that the basic model contains one or more design characteristics which prevent testing according to the prescribed test procedures, or when the prescribed test procedures may evaluate the basic model in a manner so unrepresentative of its true energy consumption as to provide materially inaccurate comparative data. Waivers generally remain in effect until final test procedure amendments become effective, resolving the problem that is the subject of the waiver.

An Interim Waiver will be granted if it is determined that the applicant will experience economic hardship if the Application for Interim Waiver is denied, if it appears likely that the Petition for Waiver will be granted, and/or the Assistant Secretary determines that it would be desirable for public policy reasons to grant immediate relief pending a determination on the Petition for Waiver. Title 10 CFR Part 430, Section 430.27 (g). An Interim Waiver remains in effect for a period of 180 days or until DOE issues its determination on the Petition for Waiver, whichever is sooner, and may be extended for an additional 180 days, if necessary.

On August 28, 1996, Rheem filed an Application for Interim Waiver and a Petition for Waiver regarding blower time delay. Rheem's Application seeks an Interim Waiver from the DOE test provisions that require a 1.5-minute time delay between the ignition of the burner and starting of the circulating air blower. Instead, Rheem requests the allowance to test using a 12-second blower time delay when testing its GLH downflow and GPH upflow/horizontal series furnaces. Rheem states that the 12-second delay is indicative of how these furnaces actually operate. Such a delay results in an average 2.0 percent increase in AFUE. Since current DOE test procedures do not address this variable blower time delay, Rheem asks that the Interim Waiver be granted.

The Department has published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on August 23, 1993, (58 FR 44583) to amend the furnace test procedure, which addresses the above issue.

Previous Petitions for Waiver for this type of time blower delay control have been granted by DOE to Coleman Company, 50 FR 2710, January 18, 1985; Magic Chef Company, 50 FR 41553, October 11, 1985; Rheem Manufacturing Company, 53 FR 48574, December 1, 1988, 56 FR 2920, January 25, 1991, 57 FR 10166, March 24, 1992, 57 FR 34560, August 5, 1992; 59 FR 30577, June 14, 1994, and 59 FR 55470, November 7, 1994; Trane Company, 54 FR 19226, May 4, 1989, 56 FR 6021, February 14, 1991,57 FR 10167, March 24, 1992, 57 FR 22222, May 27, 1992, 58 FR 68138, December 23, 1993, and 60 FR 62835, December 7, 1995; Lennox Industries, 55 FR 50224, December 5, 1990, 57 FR 49700, November 3, 1992, 58 FR 68136, December 23, 1993, and 58 FR 68137, December 23, 1993; Inter-City Products Corporation, 55 FR 51487, December 14, 1990, 56 FR 63945, December 6, 1991 and 61 FR 27057, May 30, 1996; DMO Industries, 56 FR 4622, February 5, 1991, and 59 FR 30579, June 14, 1994; Heil-Quaker Corporation, 56 FR 6019, February 14, 1991; Carrier Corporation, 56 FR 6018, February 14, 1991, 57 FR 38830, August 27, 1992, 58 FR 68131, December 23, 1993, 58 FR 68133, December 23, 1993, 59 FR 14394, March 28, 1994, and 60 FR 62832, December 7, 1995; Amana Refrigeration Inc., 56 FR 27958, June 18, 1991, 56 FR 63940, December 6, 1991, 57 FR 23392, June 3, 1992, and 58 FR 68130, December 23, 1993; Snyder General Corporation, 56 FR 54960, September 9, 1991; Goodman Manufacturing Corporation, 56 FR 51713, October 15, 1991, 57 FR 27970, June 23, 1992, 59 FR 12586, March 17, 1994 and 61 FR 17289, April 19, 1996; The Ducane Company Inc., 56 FR 63943, December 6, 1991, 57 FR 10163, March 24, 1992, and 58 FR 68134, December 23, 1993; Armstrong Air Conditioning, Inc., 57 FR 899, January 9, 1992, 57 FR 10160, March 24, 1992, 57 FR 10161, March 24, 1992, 57 FR 39193, August 28, 1992, 57 FR 54230, November 17, 1992, and 59 FR 30575, June 14, 1994; Thermo Products, Inc., 57 FR 903, January 9, 1992, and 61 FR 17887, April 23, 1996; Consolidated Industries Corporation, 57 FR 22220, May 27, 1992, and 61 FR 4262, February 5, 1996; Evcon Industries, Inc., 57 FR 47847, October 20, 1992, and 59 FR 46968, September 13, 1994; Bard Manufacturing Company, 57 FR 53733, November 12, 1992, and 59 FR 30578, June 14, 1994; and York International Corporation, 59 FR 46969, September 13, 1994, 60 FR 100, January 3, 1995, 60 FR 62834, December 7, 1995, and 60 FR 62837, December 7, 1995.

Thus, it appears likely that this Petition for Waiver for blower time delay will be granted. In those instances where the likely success of the Petition for Waiver has been demonstrated based upon DOE having granted a waiver for a similar product design, it is in the public interest to have similar products tested and rated for energy consumption on a comparable basis.

Therefore, based on the above, DOE is granting Rheem an Interim Waiver for its GLH downflow and GPH upflow/horizontal series furnaces. Rheem shall be permitted to test its GLH downflow and GPM upflow/horizontal series furnaces on the basis of the test procedures specified in Title 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B, Appendix N, with the modification set forth below:

(i) Section 3.0 in Appendix N is deleted and replaced with the following paragraph:

3.0 Test Procedure. Testing and measurements shall be as specified in Section 9 in ANSI/ASHRAE 103–82 with the exception of Sections 9.2.2, 9.3.1, and 9.3.2, and the inclusion of the following additional procedures:

(ii) Add a new paragraph 3.10 in Appendix N as follows:

3.10 Gas- and Oil-Fueled Central Furnaces. After equilibrium conditions are achieved following the cool-down test and the required measurements performed, turn on the furnace and measure the flue gas temperature, using the thermocouple grid described above, at 0.5 and 2.5 minutes after the main burner(s) comes on. After the burner start- up, delay the blower start-up by 1.5 minutes (t-) unless: (1) the furnace employs a single motor to drive the power burner and the indoor air circulation blower, in which case the burner and blower shall be started together; or (2) the furnace is designed to operate using an unvarying delay time that is other than 1.5 minutes, in which case the fan control shall be permitted to start the blower; or (3) the delay time results in the activation of a temperature safety device which shuts off the burner, in which case the fan control shall be permitted to start the blower. In the latter case, if the fan control is adjustable, set it to start the

blower at the highest temperature. If the fan control is permitted to start the blower, measure time delay (t-) using a stop watch. Record the measured temperatures. During the heat-up test for oil-fueled furnaces, maintain the draft in the flue pipe within ±0.01 inch of water column of the manufacturer's recommended on-period draft.

This Interim Waiver is based upon the presumed validity of statements and all allegations submitted by the company. This Interim Waiver may be removed or modified at any time upon a determination that the factual basis underlying the Application is incorrect.

The Interim Waiver shall remain in effect for a period of 180 days or until DOE acts on the Petition for Waiver, whichever is sooner, and may be extended for an additional 180-day period, if necessary.

Rheem's Petition for Waiver requests DOE to grant relief from the DOE furnace test procedure relating to the blower time delay specification. Rheem seeks to test using a blower delay time of 12 seconds for its GLH downflow and GPH upflow/horizontal series furnaces instead of the specified 1.5-minute delay between burner on-time and blower on-time. Pursuant to paragraph (b) of Title 10 CFR Part 430.27, DOE is hereby publishing the ''Petition for Waiver'' in its entirety. The Petition contains no confidential information. The Department solicits comments, data, and information respecting the Petition.

Issued in Washington, DC, September 19, 1996.

Christine A. Ervin,

Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Rheem Manufacturing Company

August 28, 1996.

Mr. Cyrus Nasseri,

Assistant Secretary, Conservation and Renewable Energy, United States Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585.

Dear Mr. Nasseri: This is a petition for waiver and application for interim waiver submitted pursuant to title 10 CFR Part 430.27 Waiver is requested from the furnace test procedure as prescribed in appendix N to Subpart B of Part 430. The test procedure requires a 1.5 minute delay between burner and blower start-up. Rheem is requesting authorization to use a 12 second delay instead of 1.5 minutes for our series (−)GLH downflow, and (−)GPH upflow/horizontal residential gas-fired furnaces utilizing General Electric type ICM2+ main blower motors.

Rheem will be manufacturing these appliances with an electronic device that controls the blower operation on a timing sequence as opposed to temperature.

Improved energy efficiency is achieved by reducing on cycle losses. Under the Appendix N procedures, the stack temperature is allowed to climb at a faster rate than it would with a 12 second blower on time, allowing energy to be lost out of the vent system. This waste of energy would not occur in actual operation. If this petition is granted, the true blower on time delay would be used in the calculations.

The current test procedures do not give Rheem credit for the energy savings which averages approximately 2% Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE). This improvement is an average reduction of 20% of the normal on cycle energy losses. Rheem is of the opinion that a 20% reduction is a worthwhile energy savings.

Rheem has been granted previous waivers regarding blower on time to be used in the efficiency calculations for our (−)GEB and (−)GKA series condensing furnaces and/or (−)GDE, (−)GLE, (−)GDG, (−)GLG, (−)GPH, (−)GLH, (−)GVH, and (−)GVG series furnaces. Several other manufacturers of gas furnaces have also been granted a waiver to permit calculations based on timed blower operation. Also, ASHRAE Standard 103–1993, paragraph 9.5.1.2.2 specifically addresses the use of a timed blower operation.

Confidential and comparative test data is available to you upon your request, confirming the above energy savings.

Manufacturers that domestically market similar products are being sent a copy of this petition for waiver and petition for interim waiver.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Canclini,

Vice-President, Product Development and Research Engineering.

bcc: B.A. Cook, K.W. Kleman, R.W. Willis

[FR Doc. 96–24808 Filed 9–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER96–2372–000]

Enova Energy, Inc.; Notice of Issuance of Order

September 24, 1996.

Enova Energy, Inc. (Enova) filed an application for authorization to sell power at market-based rates, and for certain waivers and authorizations. In particular, Enova requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liabilities by Enova. On September 9, 1996, the Commission issued an Order Conditionally Accepting For Filing Proposed Market-Based Rates, Granting Waivers and Authorizations and Consolidating Proceedings (Order), in the above-docketed proceeding.

The Commission's September 9, 1996 Order granted the request for blanket approval under part 34, subject to the conditions found in Ordering Paragraphs (F), (G), and (I):

(F) Within 30 days of the date of this order, any person desiring to be heard or to protest the Commission's blanket approval of issuances of securities or assumptions of liabilities by Enova should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214.

(G) Absent a request to be heard within the period set forth in Ordering Paragraph (F) above, Enova is hereby authorized to issue securities and to assume obligations or liabilities as guarantor, endorser, surety or otherwise in respect of any security of another person; provided that such issue or assumption is for some lawful object within the corporate purposes of Enova, compatible with the public interest, and reasonably necessary or appropriate for such purposes.

(I) The Commission reserves the right to modify this order to require a further showing that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by continued Commission approval of Enova's issuances of securities or assumptions of liabilities.* * *

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing motions to intervene or protests, as set forth above, is October 9, 1996.

Copies of the full text of the Order are available from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–24813 Filed 9–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

[Docket No. ER96–2860–000]

Northern States Power Company; Notice of Filing

September 23, 1996.

Take notice that on August 27, 1996, Northern States Power Company tendered for filing revised tariff sheets in compliance with the recommendation by the Division of Audits of the Office of Chief Accountant, in Docket No. FA95–5–000 reflecting the removal of ineligible fuel costs from the base and monthly fuel components in adopting recommended corrective actions, as stated in the audit report dated January 16, 1996.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion