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Important Insights from the Bradford White Product Department

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### What Is Ultra Low NO<sub>x</sub>?

Ultra Low  $NO_x$  in water heaters refers to limiting nitrogen oxide ( $NO_x$ ) emissions to below 10 nanograms per joule ( $10 \text{ ng/J NO}_x$ ). Manufacturers achieve this in a variety of ways, and it can vary by product design.

### **Who Enforces This?**

NO<sub>x</sub> emission standards are regulated at a state and local level, while the government sets air quality guidelines. Each state can make their own decisions on emission guidelines, while the government oversees them.

## What Is Low Nox Compared to Ultra Low Nox?

"Low NO<sub>x</sub>" and "Ultra Low NO<sub>x</sub>" refer to levels of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions produced by combustion equipment such as water heaters.

Low NO<sub>x</sub> Definition: Equipment that emits less NO<sub>x</sub> than standard models, Limited to 14 ng/J NO<sub>x</sub>.

**Ultra Low NO**<sub>x</sub> **Definition**: Equipment that emits very low levels of NO<sub>x</sub>, significantly below even Low NO<sub>x</sub> standards. (10 ng/J NO<sub>x</sub>).

In water heaters, models 74,999BTU's and below are required to emit less than 10 ng/J  $NO_x$ , while heaters 75,000-2 million BTU's must be no more than 14 ng/J  $NO_x$ 

# Who Requires ULN? Who is on the Horizon?

Utah and nine counties in California are currently the only areas that require Ultra Low NO<sub>x</sub> products. Denver, Colorado plans to implement similar standards on January 1, 2026.



\* Only some counties in CA require ULN.

NOTE: This document provides general information from the Bradford White Product Department. All installations and field situations present unique conditions and requirements so always consult the product manual(s), local codes and any authorities having jurisdiction.



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