

Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) – OGD Import Requirements

The term “Other Government Departments (OGDs)” refers to all Canadian government agencies, besides the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), that regulate import and export shipments in Canada.

In addition to the CBSA, there are 15 Other Government Departments (OGDs) and agencies that are involved in the movement of various commodities in and out of Canada. The goal of the OGDs is to help ensure prohibited and controlled goods are not illegally imported or exported.

Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) is the OGD that governs Canada’s *Energy Efficiency Act* and *Energy Efficiency Regulations*. Certain energy-using products are regulated by NRCAN at the time of importation (see attached listing of NRCAN regulated products).

How OGDs Affect Importers:

Imports subject to OGD requirements may be delayed if proper information is not available. Even when all is in order, the CBSA may examine your shipment based on their targeting or at the request of an OGD. Delays due to missing documentation/information may result in additional costs from carriers and warehouse operators.

NRCAN Import Requirements:

A company that imports a regulated, energy-using product into Canada must ensure specific information for NRCAN appears on the commercial import documentation. This information is required to be transmitted electronically to CBSA in order to obtain Customs release.

What information must be transmitted to obtain NRCAN release?

NRCAN requires the following information for the importation of regulated, energy-using products into Canada. Importers must ensure this information is included on their commercial documentation.

- Name of product (e.g. dishwasher, television, etc.)
- Model number
- Brand name, if any
- Address of the dealer who is importing the product
- Purpose for which the product is being imported:
 - for sale or lease in Canada without modification
 - for sale or lease in Canada after being modified to comply with the prescribed energy efficiency standard, or
 - for use as a component in a product being exported from Canada

These requirements also apply to regulated products if they are incorporated into a larger unit or machine, even when that unit or machine is an unregulated product (e.g. Sawing Machines are not regulated, but if they contain a regulated **electric motor**, the motor information must be stated on the customs or commercial invoice in order to be reported accurately to NRCAN).



What if the Customs release transmission is incomplete?

The NRCAN release information must be submitted electronically to CBSA. If that transmission is not complete or accurate, or if the product does not meet energy efficiency standards, the Customs officer may refuse to allow the product to clear customs. AMPS penalties for non-compliance may also apply.

How to avoid clearance delays & AMPS penalties:

- Review new products prior to import to determine NRCAN requirements, and provide additional information where required
- Ensure your customs broker has been notified of any new products and their NRCAN requirements in advance of arrival
- Ensure commercial documents provide complete product data elements in order that NRCAN requirements may be determined
- Ensure the release information transmitted to CBSA is accurate and complete with all required NRCAN data

Even if all information is provided, CBSA still make the ultimate decision on whether or not a release will be granted.

Need assistance with NRCAN requirements?

With the wide array of required pre-import data necessary to satisfy the CBSA and all OGDs, it is more important than ever for importers to know how their commodities may be impacted. Documentation must be complete and accurate. The customs broker must have full information to ensure timely and accurate reporting. Ultimately, any shipment delays or AMPS penalties resulting from non-compliance will have a negative effect on the importer’s business.

To ensure you are meeting your import requirements, especially with respect to OGD and NRCAN regulations, contact Universal Logistics for consultation prior to import.

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