**Issue**

In February 2019 Energy Safe Victoria, the regulator responsible for electricity, gas and pipeline safety in Victoria, recalled four open flue gas heaters. Under certain circumstances the heaters may produce too much carbon monoxide, which can cause a serious health risk to your school community.

This article outlines the requirements that all schools must undertake in response to the recall.

**Immediate action required**

For information on the four recalled heaters, see:

* [Fireplace Products Australia Pty Ltd – Regency F38/FG38 Open Flued Gas Log Fireplace (Natural Gas Only)](https://www.productsafety.gov.au/recall/fireplace-products-australia-pty-ltd-regency-f38-fg38-open-flued-gas-log-fireplace-natural-gas-only)
* [Fireplace Products Australia – Regency i.31 Open Flued Gas Log Fireplace](https://www.productsafety.gov.au/recall/fireplace-products-australia-regency-i31-open-flued-gas-log-fireplace)
* [Glen Dimplex Australia Pty Ltd – Open Flued Space Heater Real Flame Pyrotech](https://www.productsafety.gov.au/recall/glen-dimplex-australia-pty-ltd-open-flued-space-heater-nectre-2000)
* [Glen Dimplex Australia Pty Ltd – Open Flued Space Heater Nectre 2000](https://www.productsafety.gov.au/recall/glen-dimplex-australia-pty-ltd-open-flued-space-heater-nectre-2000)

If you find a recalled heater, immediately cease its use and contact the Department’s OHS Advisory Service via phone: 1300 074 715 or via email: [safety@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:safety@edumail.vic.gov.au) prior to contacting the manufacturer for rectification. Heaters will be checked and modified at the manufacturer's expense.

Heaters that are not in use or have not been serviced since March 2018 must have clear signage stating “Do not use this heater. It has not been serviced and is not safe to use” or “Do not use this heater. It has been recalled and is not safe to use.”

Schools can resume use of the heater following the technical fix, and only if approved to do so by the gasfitter.

Schools are asked to complete the gas heater survey if they haven’t already, see: [Open flue gas heaters in Victorian schools inventory](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MDD5RJT)

**Ongoing Action**

Schools should continue to ensure all gas heaters are tested by a qualified gasfitter at least every two years.

**Background**

Energy Safe Victoria has raised Safety Alerts on four open flued gas log space heaters.

All four models failed safety tests, brought about after the blanket testing of open flued gas space heaters prompted by a fatality connected to a Vulcan Heritage open flued gas space heater, and a subsequent Coronial Inquest.

The four models subject to the latest Safety Alert can be made safe with a technical fix. Households with these heaters will be able to register and have a qualified gasfitter modify and test their heater.

Where there are no other issues affecting performance, the technical fix will make the heater safe to use and the responsible supplier will meet the costs.

For information about gas heater maintenance and inspection requirements, see: [Gas heater maintenance and inspection policy (DOCX)](https://edugate.eduweb.vic.gov.au/sc/sites/Infonline/Policies%20Guidelines%20and%20Procedures/Gas%20Heater%20Maintenance%20and%20Inspection%20policy.docx).

If you have any issues or wish to discuss the recall, contact Department’s OHS Advisory Service via phone: 1300 074 715 or via email: [safety@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:safety@edumail.vic.gov.au).