

## FAQs

---

### **What is the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Proposing?**

Sweeping changes to the way portable generators are designed and manufactured, all to achieve an unprecedented emissions standard. Manufacturers would be forced back to the drawing board to completely redesign their products – meaning, for an undetermined amount of time, there would be NO portable generators available on store shelves. Worse, after the requisite research & development, engineering, testing, component sourcing, manufacture, and distribution, consumers would be left with portable generators so expensive, they would be virtually unaffordable to average Americans. And the Commission is planning all of this based on bad science, bad information, and without the statutory authority.

### **Why is the CPSC doing this?**

They have a misguided belief that the portable generator voluntary safety standard is insufficient in mitigating the hazard, which is completely untrue. Millions of generators in the market already comply with a voluntary safety standard, ANSI/PGMA G300-2018 (G300), which is an accredited American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard. G300 is a comprehensive standard for generator safety that includes a CO detection and automatic shutoff feature to address carbon monoxide-safety concerns caused by misuse. . Through third-party analysis from Exponent, Inc., generators that comply with G300 prevent over 98% of fatalities from misuse of portable generators. There are currently over 300 portable generator models across 35 brands with this CO shut-off technology, nearly 3 million units having shipped from PGMA member manufacturers alone.

### **What harm does the CPSC rulemaking do?**

In addition to banning portable generators currently on the market, and eventually replacing them with prohibitively expensive redesigned models, the proposed CPSC rule has the potential to do real harm. The rule would impose additional CO emissions requirements on portable generators, which cause generators to have much higher emissions temperatures and put consumers at risk of unintended safety hazards, including fires. Testing concludes that the CPSC's rule changes could force portable generators' exhaust temperatures over 1000 degrees Fahrenheit, extreme temperatures that would prompt house fires and threaten owners' safety.

### **Are portable generators unsafe?**

When used properly, portable generators are safe and serve a vital purpose of providing secondary power when traditional means of electricity are unavailable. This is often due to storms, hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes, and other natural disasters. Life is full of useful, legitimate tools that, if misused or abused, can cause harm. Automobiles, kitchen knives, hair dryers, even toasters – all can cause injury or even death if not used properly. Legislating something useful out of existence makes no sense and is the ultimate in government overreach.

### **Is information on safe portable generator usage readily available?**

Yes. The portable generator industry created and actively promotes its "Take It Outside" campaign, including a dedicated website full of easy to understand tips and information on how to safely get the most out of a portable generator. See for yourself here: <https://www.takeyourgeneratoroutside.com/>.

### **How can I help save portable generators?**

Start by visiting [URL]. Follow the convenient links to send a letter to the CPSC telling them you are opposed to these unnecessary and dangerous rules changes. The site also has an easy method of also informing your U.S. Representative about your opposition. Post your opposition to social media and share our links and content.