



# BULLETIN

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

**SUBJECT:** 80 Degree Thermostat Settings

**No. :** 79-BUL-138

**To:** All FMCS Employees

**Date:** August 24, 1979

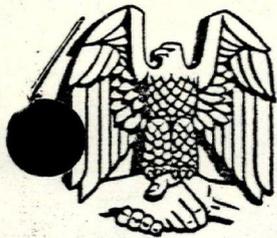
**From:** Robert P. Gajdys  
Director of Administration

*R. P. Gajdys*

GSA has responded to our letter of July 11, 1979, which requested an exemption from the 80 degree thermostat settings based upon the impact such policy has on the mediation function (reference 79-BUL-121). Our request for exemption was denied.

I have attached a copy of the letter we received from GSA. Although the reply is not favorable, GSA does point out that the policy permits pre-cooling rooms below 78 degrees under certain circumstances. Regional directors should take particular note of this provision and implement the pre-cooling system with GSA buildings managers as appropriate.

Attachments



# BULLETIN

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

SUBJECT: 80 Degree Thermostat Settings

No. : 79-BUL-121

To: All FMCS Employees

Date: July 20, 1979

From: Robert P. Gajdys  
Director of Administration

On April 10, 1979, President Carter issued an executive memorandum to all Federal agencies requiring an immediate 5% reduction in the consumption of vital energy in the operations of all federal buildings. This program also requires all thermostats in Federal buildings be set at 80 degrees during the cooling season.

I realize that this restriction adversely impacts the mediation process. However, until we receive an exemption from the general policy, we are going to have to cope with the situation.

I have attached a copy of a letter which the Director sent to the Acting Administrator of GSA. Hopefully, this letter will accomplish exactly that objective. If you experience any particularly urgent problems resulting from this policy, contact me directly.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20405



3  
Mr. Wayne L. Horvitz  
Director, Federal Mediation  
and Conciliation Service  
United States Government  
Washington, DC 20427

Dear Mr. Horvitz:

Since your letter of July 11, 1979, was written requesting an exemption from the 80 degree thermostat settings, the President has proclaimed that a severe energy supply interruption exists. This action by the President placed Standby Emergency Plan No. 2, Emergency Building Temperature Restrictions, in effect.

Standby Plan No. 2 provides for a minimum cooling temperature of 78 degrees F which is less stringent than the temperature level previously required for Federal buildings. The Plan applies to federally owned, other publicly owned and privately owned buildings, and thus, places the entire country on the same basis. Exemptions are included in the Plan for hospitals, nursing homes, residences, etc.

Standby Plan No. 2 also permits the pre-cooling of conference rooms, etc., below the 78 degree F level if the capacity of the installed air-conditioning system is not sufficient to maintain the prescribed temperature level for the expected length of the meeting. The goal, in such cases, should be to provide only the pre-cooling necessary so that the temperature at the end of the meeting will not be below the prescribed 78 degree F level.

Considering the recent application of Standby Plan No. 2 throughout the country and the less stringent limitations on cooling, we believe it is unnecessary to grant an exception to the Federal Mediation and Conciliation service. Your support in the application of uniform building temperature limitation nationwide is anticipated as one means of helping to alleviate the national energy shortage.

Sincerely,

Walter V. Kallaur  
Acting Deputy Administrator