Tate, Michele

#2658

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Sent:

Monday, February 04, 2008 10:28 AM

To:

Subject: Truck idling regulation

regcomments@state.pa.us

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

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I became aware that the State EPA is considering adopting regulations which would limit the amount of time that a truck would be permitted to idle. I would like to first say I am in favor of this type of regulation but only if along side that regulation it require to installation of a system to heat and cool the truck while the driver is on his breaks as required by Federal D.O.T. regulations.

In reading the proposal, I notice that there seems to be an impression that trucking companies will voluntarily install these devises or pay for the use of facilities such as Idle Aire sites. This is just not the case. Trucking companies are known for being penny wise and pound foolish. Hence the need for road side inspection of trucks in the various states to assure that trucks are kept in good repair and are safe to be on the road. Don't think that just because the state requires the truck to be shut down that the companies will install the units for heating and cooling. I drive for a NJ based company and the primary area of service is the Northeast but none on the trucks are equipped with such devises so the truck sits idling in parking lots and rest stops.

I also know that the courts in NY and NJ and other surrounding states have found that if the driver has a pet in the truck the truck must remain running FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PET!! Drivers can be fined for keeping the pet in the closed truck which kills enforcement of the law!

As a driver I would much rather shut off the truck but I need to have the ability to stay comfortable while sleeping as well.

I also have heard comments such as just open a window as an alternative but I also wish to remain safe and truck stops and rest areas are not safe places so this is absolutely not an option.

Please make the law not to just protect the environment but protect the driver as well.

Best Regards,

Vincent R. Meyers, Sr.

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