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Feb. 28, 2008
216 E. Main St.
Ligonier, Pa. 15658

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To: Environmental Quality Board
Harrisburg, Pa. 17105

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

I am writing to request that the Board approve the proposed regulation limiting idling time of trucks & buses.

I suffer from a bronchial condition that is aggravated by an extreme sensitivity to certain odors & irritants in the air; at the top of the list is fumes from diesels.

On the Main St. where I live there are many commercial operations in what were once residences. Delivery trucks, tractor-trailers & buses frequently park in front of my house & leave their motors running for as long as an hour or more. I cannot open windows or doors, & even in the winter the fumes seep into my home. Needless to say, I am badly affected by this. Tour buses sometimes run longer than an hour because the driver stays in the bus waiting for passengers to return & wants to keep the heat or air conditioning going.

I have been hospitalized for my respiratory problems & take daily medication. My drs. tell me that respiratory ailments have become more prevalent - not only among children but adults as well - because pollution has greatly increased over the years & protecting the environment is not a priority among governing bodies.

I understand truckers & bus drivers claim they have to keep motors running because it takes too long to startup again & it's important that they lose no time on their schedule. I also understand that there is an attachment that can be placed on the vehicle that will eliminate that problem. I would think they would

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save money - Considering the high cost of diesel fuel - if they turned off their motors instead of wasting fuel by idling. (Not only is the air polluted, but also the peace & quiet of this attractive little town by the noise of these idling vehicles.)

No doubt I'm not the only one with health problems affected by this idling practice, but few people will take the time to voice their complaint. Perhaps it's because they doubt their complaint will get any attention. So if you've bothered to read this, know that this idling problem affects thousands of people - young & old - throughout the state. Please pass this regulation for their well-being; consider the little guy instead of the big lobbyists.

Respectfully,
Betty Markey
(Mrs. Andrew G. Markey)

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD