

22ND DISTRICT  
**ROBERT J. MELLOW**  
SENATE BOX 203022  
THE STATE CAPITOL  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3022  
PHONE: (717) 787-6481  
FAX: (717) 783-5198

524 MAIN STREET  
P.O. BOX B  
PECKVILLE, PA 18452  
PHONE: (570) 489-0336  
TOLL FREE: (877) 346-5721  
FAX: (570) 963-3170

102 POCONO BLVD.  
MOUNT POCONO, PA 18344  
PHONE: (570) 839-4812  
FAX: (570) 839-4816

*The Democratic Leader*



Senate of Pennsylvania

2802

December 23, 2009

**COMMITTEES**

RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS  
MINORITY CHAIRMAN  
ETHICS, MINORITY CHAIRMAN  
APPROPRIATIONS  
1-800-364-1881 (TT)

RECEIVED

DEC 28 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Environmental Quality Board  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Rachel Carson State Office Building  
16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
400 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

JAN - 4 REC'D

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been contacted by numerous constituents regarding the recent regulation recommendations proposed by the Department of Environmental Protection as they pertain to outdoor wood burning furnaces.

As the public comment period is shortly coming to a close, I am taking the liberty of forwarding their correspondences for your consideration. I appreciate you taking the time to review their concerns and keep them in mind as you move forward with the regulatory process.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert J. Mellow".

ROBERT J. MELLOW  
The Democratic Leader

RJM:smk

Enclosures

NOV 30 2009

Dear Legislator

Robert Mellow

I have chosen to heat my home with an outdoor wood furnace for a number of good reasons:

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- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times.
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- Heating with wood results in no net increase in global warming gas emissions. Heating with oil, coal and natural gas is a significant source of global warming gas emissions.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has proposed a regulation for “outdoor wood-fired boilers” that has the potential to impact my ability to continue utilizing my existing appliance. I am strongly opposed to:

- Excessive chimney height requirements for existing and new furnace installations that are not based upon science.
  - Excessive chimney height requirements are costly (parts and height determination), time consuming and may prevent a large number of owners from being able to comply.
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I am requesting that you act now to assist me to preserve my rights and the rights of existing outdoor wood furnace owners in the State of Pennsylvania by opposing the excessive and retroactive requirements of the proposed regulation. I am supportive of a state law requiring existing furnace owners to have to comply with proper fuel use requirements and for regulations regarding new installations to be reasonable.

Please submit comments to the EQB no later than January 4, 2009 in support of my position. Written comments should be submitted to: Environmental Quality Board, P. O. Box 8477, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477 (express mail: Rachel Carson State Office Building, 16th Floor, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101-2301). Comments submitted via email should be sent to [RegComments@state.pa.us](mailto:RegComments@state.pa.us). You should also attend the four scheduled public hearings to voice your concern (visit <http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol39/39-42/1929.html> for details on locations, times and dates).

Please act now to help preserve my rights to heat with wood in a responsible, economical and safe manner.

Sincerely,

George Nantakis, 

Date: 11/20/09

Manatakis  
2275 Low Court Road  
Cresco, PA 18326

LEHIGH VALLEY, PA 180

24 NOV 2009 PM 2 L



Sen. Bob Mellow  
162 Pocono Blvd.  
Mt. Pocono, PA 18344

NOV 30 2009

18344+1412



DEC 21 2009

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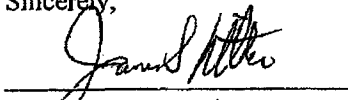
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Sincerely,

  
Date: 12/15/09

Ritter's Farm  
JAMES Ritter, owner  
1459 MT COBB Rd.  
LAKE ARIZ, PA 18436  
570-470-4754

December 15, 2009

RE: Proposed outdoor wood burner regulations.

Dear Sir,

In the last 12 years I have used my outdoor wood burner to heat the house on my farm. The burner has allowed me to avoid buying 50,000 gallons of foreign oil. At a time when we are at war in that part of the world and oil profits help fund our enemies, I consider using my outdoor wood burner to be a very patriotic activity.

Also, the net income on my farm is around \$20,000.00 per year. We pay \$10,000.00 in Real Estate taxes to our Township, County, and School District. This amount is about equal to the savings generated from using my outdoor wood burner. Forced to quit using our own source of energy by DEP over regulation will definitely result in the sale of our farm. As the last vegetable farm in our township this would be a devastating loss to the local residents who value the fresh produce we provide.

The proposed DEP regulations are incredibly anti rural and anti farmer! They do not propose to ban city residents use of wood stoves or fireplaces. Nor do they propose to stop the Nature Conservatory from burning entire mountain tops to artificially maintain the supposedly endangered scrub oak on these mountains.

At a time when we still teeter on the edge of a depression, DEP proposes to shut down an entire industry, including American manufacturers of these outdoor wood burners and the loggers who provide the wood itself. Because of depressed building lumber prices, most loggers I know are surviving only through firewood sales. If they lose this source of income they will surely join the ranks of the unemployed and their equipment and possibly their homes will be repossessed.

Please stop DEP from implementing these regulations.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Ritter, owner

Ritter's Farm  
1459 Mount Cobb Rd Jefferson Twsp., PA 18436

Ron Holgate  
1148 Maplewood RD  
18436

DEC 04 2009

--- FOR BOB MELLOW

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Sincerely,

*Ronald Holgate*

Date: 11.30.09



James P. Keating  
PO Box 223  
Elmhurst PA 18416

yellow

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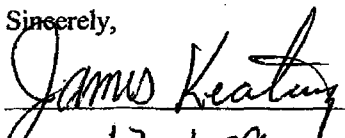
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Sincerely,

  
Date: 12-1-09

DEC 03 2009

Dear Legislator SENATOR BOB MELLOW

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Sincerely,



Date: 11-27-09

356 WIMMERS RD  
JEFFERSON TWP PA. 18436



Borders  
R.D.#1, Box 1224  
CARBONDALE, PA 18407

Nov. 22, 2009  
NOV 30 2009

J. Mellow  
c/o Building

Senators Box 203022  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3022

Dear Senator Mellow

Six years ago when we purchased our outdoor wood fired furnace we were paying \$1,000.00 a month during the winter months for propane gas to heat our two houses.

Since we have a 20 acre woodlot to supplement our wood source, it seems to be the right thing to do.

The DEP is now proposing unreasonable regulations for existing wood burner furnace owners. We purchased installed and operated our boiler in good faith prior to the drafting of this regulation. We have approx. \$18,000.00 to invest in our boiler and in excavation and installation expenses. If this regulation is passed we would be unable to comply with the chimney requirements the chimney would have to be 100 feet tall. Our expensive investment would be worthless.

Please don't let this happen to existing owners

Sincerely,  
[Signature]

Alton Borders Susan Borders Cynthia Borders Lisa Borders

NOV 30 2009

Dear Legislator

*Senator Robert J. Mellow*

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Sincerely,

*Cy 232*

Date:

*11/25/09*

*Borders  
R.D.#1, Box 1224  
Carbondale, PA 18407*

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Date:

11/25/09

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Sincerely,

*Susan J. Borders*

Date:

*Nov. 27, 2009*

*Borders  
Rt #1, Box 1224  
Carbondale, PA 18407*

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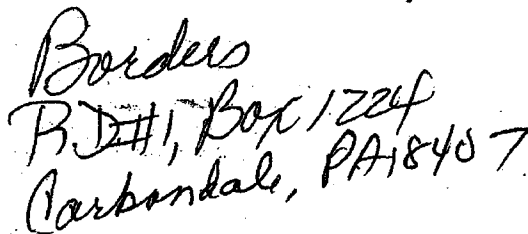
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