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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

RECEIVED

2802

FEB 12 2010

February 9, 2010

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Environmental Quality Board
P. O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

RECEIVED
FEB 19 2010
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Members of the Environmental Quality Board:

I am writing to provide written comments on the proposed rulemaking to amend 25 Pa. Code Chapters 121 and 123 (relating to general provisions; and standards for contaminants) to add requirements for the control of particulate matter emissions from outdoor wood-fired boilers.

I have been contacted by many constituents with concerns about the proposed regulations. Of particular concern is the aspect that makes the regulations retroactive. With the exception of proper fuel use, it is greatly unfair to impose new regulations on individuals who have already made substantial investments in an outdoor wood-fired boiler. The required adjustments under the proposed regulations could be costly. Anyone who has an outdoor wood-fired boiler in service on the effective date of the regulations should be grandfathered.

I also believe that instead of a one-size-fits-all, statewide approach, municipalities should be permitted to regulate these boilers locally. The impact on neighbors varies tremendously between residences in more rural and remote areas and residences in more urban settings. Moreover, constituents have expressed a desire to preserve their ability to heat their homes in this manner as a cost-saving option during this difficult economy. Restrictions on the operation of these boilers, particularly with regard to the months in which they can operate, should be decided locally.

On behalf of my constituents, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Neal P. Goodman
State Representative
123rd Legislative District

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 - COAL
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