

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MATTHEW E. BAKER**

ROOM 115 RYAN OFFICE BUILDING
PO BOX 202068
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2068
PHONE: (717) 772-5371
FAX: (717) 705-1850

DISTRICT OFFICES:
74 MAIN STREET
WELLSBORO, PA 16901
PHONE: (570) 724-1390
FAX: (570) 724-2168

430 CANTON STREET, SUITE 6
TROY, PA 16947
PHONE: (570) 297-3045
FAX: (570) 297-5551

2802



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

**CHAIRMAN, HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES COMMITTEE**
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE COMMITTEE
POLICY COMMITTEE

CAUCUSES
FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES
LOCAL TAX REFORM
RURAL HEALTH CARE
SPORTSMEN
TIMBER

APPOINTMENTS
STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS
PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL

December 1, 2009

RECEIVED

DEC - 2 2009

Environmental Quality Board
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
P. O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Dear Chairman Hanger and Board Members:

Enclosed please find additional letters I have received in opposition to proposed regulation of outdoor wood-fired boilers since my letter to you of November 25, 2009.

I appreciate your careful review of this correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew E. Baker".

Matthew E. Baker
State Representative
68th Legislative District

MEB:wwr

Enclosures

RECEIVED
2009 DEC 14 11 42 27
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
INVESTIGATIONS

Dear Legislator Matt Baker.

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

- With the ever changing price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG, heating with wood is an economical option – a furnace owner that heats with wood in an outdoor furnace can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times.
- Heating with an outdoor wood furnace eliminates the risks of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning associated with an indoor heating system because the appliance is located outside. Every year literally thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices.
- 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.
- Seasonal prohibition between May 1 and September 30. A statewide seasonal restriction for rural owners, people with their own wood lots, farming operations, greenhouse operations is unreasonable.
- Opacity requirements for residential sized appliances because opacity is a subjective visual observation.

While it is foreseeable that furnace owners creating verifiable nuisances need to increase their chimney to alleviate complaints, it is unreasonable for the Pa DEP to retroactively impose restrictions (with the exception of proper fuel use) on my existing outdoor wood furnace. My appliance was purchased, installed, and operated in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulation.

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. 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,

Henry Abma

Date: 11-23-09

HENRY ABMA
RR3 BOX 453
TROY, Pa. 16947

RECEIVED

DEC - 2 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Dear Legislator MATHEW E BAKER

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

- With the ever changing price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG, heating with wood is an economical option – a furnace owner that heats with wood in an outdoor furnace can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times.
- Heating with an outdoor wood furnace eliminates the risks of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning associated with an indoor heating system because the appliance is located outside. Every year literally thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices.
- 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.
- Seasonal prohibition between May 1 and September 30. A statewide seasonal restriction for rural owners, people with their own wood lots, farming operations, greenhouse operations is unreasonable.
- Opacity requirements for residential sized appliances because opacity is a subjective visual observation.

While it is foreseeable that furnace owners creating verifiable nuisances need to increase their chimney to alleviate complaints, it is unreasonable for the Pa DEP to retroactively impose restrictions (with the exception of proper fuel use) on my existing outdoor wood furnace. My appliance was purchased, installed, and operated in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulation.

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. 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,

Ronald J. Moss

Date: 11-24-09

RONALD J. MOSS
1066 BROWN RD
W3115 BOX, Pg. 16901

RECEIVED

DEC - 2 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Dear Legislator Matthew C. Baker

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

- With the ever changing price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG, heating with wood is an economical option – a furnace owner that heats with wood in an outdoor furnace can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times.
- Heating with an outdoor wood furnace eliminates the risks of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning associated with an indoor heating system because the appliance is located outside. Every year literally thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices.
- 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.
- Seasonal prohibition between May 1 and September 30. A statewide seasonal restriction for rural owners, people with their own wood lots, farming operations, greenhouse operations is unreasonable.
- Opacity requirements for residential sized appliances because opacity is a subjective visual observation.

While it is foreseeable that furnace owners creating verifiable nuisances need to increase their chimney to alleviate complaints, it is unreasonable for the Pa DEP to retroactively impose restrictions (with the exception of proper fuel use) on my existing outdoor wood furnace. My appliance was purchased, installed, and operated in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulation.

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. 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,

M/S Tina Huntington

Date: 11/23/09

TINA HUNTINGTON
3684 Route 249
WESTFIELD, Pa. 16950

RECEIVED

DEC - 2 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Over →

I heat my home with wood because being
a ~~mom~~ ~~single~~ single mom raising two kids I
can not afford to pay the gas prices to heat my
home. Wood is better for me financially

Thank you

MS Jim Huntington

Rep. Glenn Thompson

Dear Legislator Rep. Matt Baker

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

- With the ever changing price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG, heating with wood is an economical option – a furnace owner that heats with wood in an outdoor furnace can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times.
- Heating with an outdoor wood furnace eliminates the risks of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning associated with an indoor heating system because the appliance is located outside. Every year literally thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices.
- 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.
- Seasonal prohibition between May 1 and September 30. A statewide seasonal restriction for rural owners, people with their own wood lots, farming operations, greenhouse operations is unreasonable.
- Opacity requirements for residential sized appliances because opacity is a subjective visual observation.

While it is foreseeable that furnace owners creating verifiable nuisances need to increase their chimney to alleviate complaints, it is unreasonable for the Pa DEP to retroactively impose restrictions (with the exception of proper fuel use) on my existing outdoor wood furnace. My appliance was purchased, installed, and operated in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulation.

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. 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,

Waldo H. Wood

Date: 11-27-09

3601 Route 249
Little Marsh, PA 16950

RECEIVED

DEC - 2 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

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

Or

express mail:
Rachel Carson State Office Building 16th Floor
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101-2301

Or

Email: RegComments@state.pa.us.

Dear Environmental Quality Board,

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

- With the ever changing price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG, heating with wood is an economical option – an owner that heats with wood in an outdoor furnace can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times.
- Heating with an outdoor wood furnace eliminates the risks of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning associated with an indoor heating system because the appliance is located outside. Every year literally thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices.
- 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 proposed regulation for “outdoor wood-fired boilers” 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.
- Seasonal prohibition between May 1 and September 30. A statewide seasonal restriction for rural owners, people with their own wood lots, farming operations, greenhouse operations is unreasonable.
- Opacity requirements for residential sized appliances because opacity is a subjective visual observation.

While it is foreseeable that furnace owners creating verifiable nuisances need to increase their chimney to alleviate complaints, it is unreasonable for the Pa DEP to retroactively impose restrictions (with the exception of proper fuel use) on my existing outdoor wood furnace. My appliance was purchased, installed, and operated in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulation.

I am opposed to the excessive and retroactive requirements of the proposed regulation. If passed as currently written, I believe that the regulation will adversely impact my rights and the rights of existing outdoor wood furnace owners that use these appliances in a responsible manner. 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.

Sincerely,

Waldo H. Wood

Date: 11-27-09

RECEIVED

DEC - 2 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Florence A Mudie
171 Dartt Settlement Road
Wellsboro PA 16901

RECEIVED

DEC - 2 2009

November 23, 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Subject: Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers

Dear Representative Matthew E. Baker,

Less than three years ago my husband and I installed an outdoor wood furnace to heat our home and water. The entire system cost us approximately \$7,000. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) proposed regulation for outdoor wood-fired boilers will adversely impact our ability to continue utilizing our existing appliance. If such regulations were in effect in 2007 we would not have purchased the furnace.

We burn nothing but clean wood, and are not a nuisance or hazard to anyone. Before purchasing our furnace we:

- Contacted Charleston Township to determine if there were any regulations pertaining to the installation or use of the appliance,
- Spoke with our insurance agent regarding coverage, and
- Talked to our immediate neighbors to obtain possible objections to the appliance.

We are a retired couple who are living on a fixed income. The \$7,000 investment was made to save us the constantly rising cost of natural gas. If these regulations are adopted as proposed we will have to spend several more thousand dollars to be in compliance. That is if the unsightly necessary changes would be within local regulations. Additionally, changes to the furnace will most likely reduce its efficiency.

Indoor wood burning furnaces, stove, and fireplaces will continue to be utilized without restrictions. While some homeowners burn all their household garbage, treated wood, and paper products in open burn barrels or large bonfires, we will not be allowed to use a professionally installed furnace. Additionally, the air pollution being created by the local natural gas industry in this area appears to be a much greater public health hazard than emissions from residential wood-fired boilers.

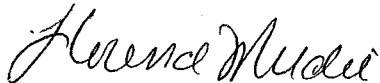
It is not reasonable for the state to retroactively impose these restrictions when no statewide regulations existed when we purchased our furnace. Our furnace was purchased, installed, and operated in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulation.

I am requesting that you act now to assist me to preserve the rights of existing outdoor wood furnace owners in the State of Pennsylvania by opposing the excessive and retroactive requirement 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, 2010 in support of my position. Written comments should be submitted to: Environmental Quality Board, PO 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. You should also attend the four scheduled public hearing to voice your concern (visit <http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/date/vol39/39-42/1929.html> for details on locations, times and dates).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Florence Mudie".

Florence Mudie

