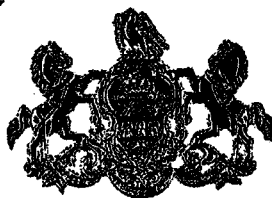


34TH DISTRICT
SENATOR JAKE CORMAN

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COMMITTEES
BANKING & INSURANCE
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RULES & EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS
STATE GOVERNMENT

Appropriations Chairman



Senate of Pennsylvania

December 16, 2009

John Hanger, Chairman
Environmental Quality Board
15th Floor Rachel Carson Building
Harrisburg, PA 17101-2301

Re: Proposed Rulemaking – Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers (#7-444)

Dear Chairman Hanger:

I am writing to offer comments for the Environmental Quality Board's (EQB) consideration regarding the above-referenced proposed rulemaking.

Many of my constituents in the 34th Senatorial District rely on OWBs to heat their homes and water supply throughout the year. The proposed draft regulations put forth by DEP concern many of these constituents who have purchased, installed, and operated their OWBs in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulations.

Two main issues of concern:

- Chimney height and location requirements for existing units
- Seasonal prohibitions

While I can understand restrictions that require all furnace owners to comply with proper fuel use standards and regulations that alleviate verifiable nuisances with new OWB installations, I do not support requirements that would burden existing furnace owners and stop individuals from benefiting from the use year-round.

Requiring existing OWB owners to alter chimney heights and location is costly and may end up restricting use all together by individuals who cannot afford to comply with the new mandates. Again, these individuals purchased and installed their furnaces in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulations. The owners cannot turn back the clock now, and subsequently will be punished monetarily for their previous in-line actions. I do not find this reasonable and do not support including chimney height or location regulations on individuals who have operated in a previously acceptable fashion.

2802

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LEWISTOWN OFFICE
31 WEST THIRD STREET
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
717-242-2410

NEW BLOOMFIELD OFFICE
7 WEST MAIN STREET
NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA 17068
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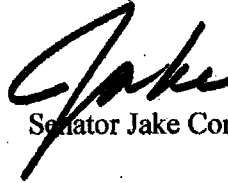
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Chairman Hanger

Seasonal prohibitions would also harm many of the constituents in my district who rely on these furnaces year-round. I have received letters and calls from constituents who use their OWB's to heat their water supply and have no other option for this integral application. They would incur great expense and inconvenience should they be prohibited from using their OWB during summer months. Real impacts on the rural population as well as owners of wood lots, farming businesses and greenhouse operations are just a few examples of why I cannot support a seasonal restriction.

Thank you for your time and attention to these comments. I hope I have expressed clearly, my nonsupport for chimney height and location requirements on existing owners and statewide seasonal prohibitions. I will continue to follow these proposals carefully.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jake", written over the printed name "Senator Jake Corman".

Senator Jake Corman

JDC/sjs