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December 28, 2009

JAN - 4 2010

John Hanger, Chairman
Environmental Quality Board
15th Floor Rachel Carson Building
Harrisburg, PA 17105

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

John Wilcox
9010 Findley Lake Road
North East, PA 16428

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JAN - 4 REGD

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Hanger;

I am very concerned about the regulations that would prohibit the use of my wood burning outdoor boiler to heat my house and water. I have been using an outdoor wood burning boiler to heat my house for the past five years.

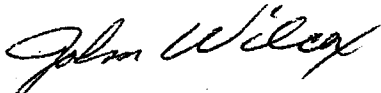
I can't beleive that the government is now trying to pass regulations that will make it impossiable for me to operate my boiler. When I installed my boiler there was no regulations as to where and how I could install my unit. I live on a 135 acre farm, and as most people, my house is located next to the road at the edge of my property line, thus it would not meet the ridiculous set back rule.

My boiler is located between my barn and house, and to meet the stack height regulation I would need to install a 40' stack, ridiculous. As I stated earlier I also heat water with my boiler, so the proposed regulation to control what months of the year the boiler could be used is also ridiculous, as it would prohit heating the hot water for the house, not to mention that we get long cold springs and falls in Erie county.

In my location, choices for home heating are elecatric, propane, oil, or wood. There are no natural gas lines available. I have tried oil and propane, but found I could not afford them, as they were much too expensive to heat my house. I have been heating my house for 40 years with wood, and with aces to over 60 acres of wood land, I can by using my outdoor wood burning boiler afford to heat my house at a cost I can afford, and not have to worry about turning the thermostate down. I can heat my house as warm as my wife and like, which is important as we are in our early 60's and enjoy a warm house this time of year.

Hopefully something can be done to remedy this situation so we can continue to heat with our outdoor burning boiler.

Sincerely,



John Wilcox

Apple Blossom Farm

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