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From: Karin Fullam [ksfullam@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, January 01, 2010 12:07 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: wood-fired outdoor furnaces

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REGULATORY

Dear Sir or Madam, I am keeping a very close eye on your decision regarding wood-fired outdoor furnaces this coming week. I have spoken to many central PA owners of these furnaces, who all seem to be of one mind. They are all quite disturbed and peeved at the proposed retroactive regulations coming from Harrisburg regarding the furnaces they purchased in good faith. The renewable resource we call wood is readily available and when used in the more sparsely populated areas of PA creates absolutely no problem with pollution. Many farmers who are already in extremely desperate financial straits from this horrible economy have purchased these systems, installed them and are using them according to the manufacturer's instructions and are saving money on heating their buildings. Retroactive regulations in rural parts of the state where it makes no sense will help drive the owners of PA's traditional family farms even closer to bankruptcy.

I am very upset that you think it is perfectly OK to paint the entire state with the same brush - that you would even consider treating the rural areas of the same manner as the small portion which is more densely populated. This regulation would be extremely detrimental to many law-abiding taxpayers and to the economy of the greatest portion of the state and would serve no useful purpose, except to tighten the stranglehold extreme environmentalists have on the citizens of Pennsylvania. I think that might be your purpose, since I can't think of any other reason you would even consider doing this.

We are sick of being subjected to rules and regulations that are made by unelected bureaucrats who cannot be held accountable for the damage they do.

Use some common sense and let the municipalities regulate outdoor furnaces as they see fit. Government closer to the people invariably works more efficiently, because local officials are aware of the needs and circumstances of their area. Bureaucrats in Harrisburg are not.

I was taught that we live in a representative democracy. Weren't you? Karin S. Fullam