

From: Mark Storms [ma.storms@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2010 10:39 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Proposed outdoor furnace restrictions

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Dear Sir/ Mam,

I really don't know what to say about the proposed regulations on outdoor furnace. It seems very unnecessary and unneeded, especially on those who already own them and have been operating them.

I would think that the least you could do is not restrict those who already have them installed. The stack restrictions seem to make an owner put a stack on a furnace that was not designed to hold such weight, take away from our beautiful PA landscape, and causes financial hardships on the owner.

At one time we were told that we needed to conserve energy, so we did and we went to an outdoor furnace that would use the timber that falls in our woods and would otherwise be discarded. It also saves us money on heating bills we otherwise cannot afford. Now we are asked to pour more money down the drain. What is the real purpose of this? How can it really protect the environment? Doesn't a forest fire throw much more pollutants into the air than all the stoves in PA for hundreds of years? Why not spend your energy and money in controlling those fires?

I agree that our furnaces can be more efficient and burn more effectively, so why not impose regulations on new ones only? What does it really gain to make these restrictions on existing furnace owners, why not just grandfather them in and have them purchase the better equipment when they have to change their furnaces out? It is my understanding that these furnaces don't last all that long any way.

Could not the furnace regulations have clauses to exempt people who own so much land and not by how close they are to the nearest neighbor? I live on 60 acres, but my house happens to have one other land owner about 120 feet away, yet I would have to put a stack on the furnace that is higher than his house?

Is there a stimulus package that could pay for these additional charges?

What happens if my furnace can not support this kind of smoke stack? Do you supply information on what size of stacks can be supported on each of the models of outdoor furnaces?

Could you not at least grandfather the existing owners in with no restrictions? If not, can you please help me understand what great benefits I will be making to the environment when I follow these regulations?