

JAN - 4 2010

To whom it may concern,

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Whatever happened to living in the land of the free. America is no longer a free land. In 2008 I installed an outside wood burning stove on my land and I also installed one on my parents land. this is our only source of hot water and heat now. Neither my elderly parents, nor I, being a single mother raising two children on my own, can afford to buy oil or have only electric for heat. My parents have wood land so we have a source of wood. Now the government wants to tell us we can't burn wood to heat our homes. WHERE IS OUR FREEDOM OF CHOICE? My parents are in their eighty's. My father is a world war II veteran, who fought for this country so America could be a free land and have choices. Now the government wants to tell them they can no longer be as warm as they want in the winter, or have hot water all year long. They have heated their home with wood for over 50 years with a wood stove inside their home. I also had one. They have had several chimney fires over the years and now my 87 year old father can no longer tend to a stove inside, my 82 year old mother tried to take over but it is also too much for her getting up all hours of the night to make sure the fire doesn't go out so they don't get cold, and having the risk of fire inside the house. With the outside wood burners i can take care of the heat inside my parents house and they only have to set the thermostat, there isn't a risk of burning their house down, or mine, the house doesn't fill with smoke when the door is opened, no mess inside and most of all it is a lot safer for them being in their eighty's. My 82 year old mother isn't up on the roof trying to clean the chimney, because she doesn't want to ask for help. We live in the mountain and have NO close neighbors, so you are going to deprive other people along with a world war II vetrean and his wife, who can't afford to heat their home any other way, the luxury of being warm and having hot water. and you try to say this is the land of the free. We burn nothing but untreated wood in our stoves and have no more smoke than our neighbors have who still have the wood stoves in their houses. After all wasn't a wood fire the way Americans have always kept warm until all these other fuels were found or invented. You need to go after the people who burn what is not to be burnt in them like treated wood and garbage, not the people who burn only wood. I believe industries do a lot more harm than people trying to heat their homes. Please don't deprive Americans to be able to be warm or have hot water using wood which used to be the only American way of life.

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