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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

January 4, 2010

Leon Etzweiler
3155 Peters Mountain Road
Halifax, PA 17032

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Environmental Quality Board
P. O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

Dear Sirs;

I am concerned about the proposed rules governing "Outdoor Wood Burners". I understand and accept the proposed rules for manufacturers to improve their products to be more efficient and less polluting. However, I feel the proposal for the stack height for existing stoves (2 feet above highest residence within 500 feet) is unrealistic, unfair, and not workable. Imposing these rules on people who already have these stoves is comparable to an electric company shutting off the power or an oil company not delivering oil to people to heat their homes.

People across the state have so many different situations, that it would be hard to write legislation that would be fair to everyone whether they live in a city, small town or rural area.

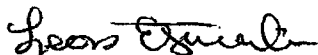
The people who burn everything and anything in their stoves are the individuals that are making legislation necessary. Those of us who obey the rules and only burn wood or coal will be punished by negative legislation along with those who don't. Another thing people do without regard for their neighbors is burning their stoves year around. Neighbors can't have their windows open or spend any time outdoors because of the smoke. Maybe the emphasis should be on this type of guideline.

I personally have a problem with the smokestack height. I live on the side of a hill with a neighbor living on top of the hill. I have an existing stove. There is no way I can get my stack 2 feet higher than their house. This neighbor has never mentioned a problem with the smoke from my stove. Making me shut down for the height of my stack would be an injustice.

In summary, I am a considerate neighbor who doesn't burn anything other than wood or coal. I only burn my stove from October to April. And, I am in the process of extending my stack as far as possible.

I would appreciate your serious consideration in this matter for those of us who burn our stoves with regard for others.

Thanking you in advance.



Leon Etzweiler

c: Sen. Jeffrey Piccola
Rep. Sue Helm