

Environmental Quality Board,

RECEIVED

I am writing this letter in response to the proposed new regulations regarding outdoor wood burners (owb's). I installed an owb approximately five years ago. Before doing so I checked on ordinances and regulations in Jefferson Twp, Somerset County where I live, and there was none. I do live in a small rural community so before purchasing a owb, I looked at predominant wind direction and determined that it should not be an issue. Approximately one year ago Jefferson Twp enacted an ordinance pertaining to owb's. I complied to the ordinance by extending my stack height and not burning during non-heating months, which I did not do since my owb was installed. I burn ninety-five percent coal and five percent clean wood. Many homes in this rural community burn coal as a dedicated heat source.

There is a financial impact with the use of a owb, as most if not all fuels whether coal or wood are purchased from local PA sources, versus contributing to the issue of foreign dependency.

I feel stack and setback requirements need to be looked at on an individual basis, due to the terrain and surrounding areas. Over extending stack heights would affect the operation of the owb, not to mention the cost and structural problems involved. These issues could be monitored by local municipalities.

I'm sure there are legitimate concerns and complaints regarding this issue. There are also those who look only to create an issue where there is none. Not all complaints are justified and therefore should not be treated equally. I believe those who operate an owb need to be conscious and considerate of those around us. My only hope is that the rules and regulations put in place are practical and not biased.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

RECEIVED

Sincerely,

JAN - 5 2010

*Mark D. Schrock*

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

MARK D. SCHROCK

814-443-2081

2197 W. BAKERSVILLE EDIE RD.

SOMERSET PA. 15501