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Environmental Quality Board
PO Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17101

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in opposition to most of the proposed regulation of outdoor wood stoves. Because these stoves are used in a variety of settings, from very rural to suburban, rules that attempt to control their nuisance are best left to individual municipalities. In areas where neighbors frequently complain about smoke from outdoor stoves the EQB should provide sample regulations to the municipality. However in more rural areas where this is not likely to be a problem, the proposed regulations are overly burdensome.

I do support the proposed requirement of Phase II compliant stoves. I think that it is the role of the EQB and the Commonwealth to promote better efficiency and decreased pollution. However, it should be remembered that a movement toward locally produced heating fuel (wood) is very important to our economy. In many situations it is best to accept lower efficiencies and higher levels of pollution from wood stoves in order to decrease the emissions and political costs associated with acquiring and transporting petroleum from other states or foreign nations.

In summary, the role of controlling nuisance smoke is best left to local municipalities. Local government has a better understanding of the problem and can tailor regulation to their needs. However, it is in the interest of all citizens of the Commonwealth for the EQB to promote more efficient stoves and decreased emissions. In doing so, please recognize the vast advantages of using a local, renewable fuel source such as wood.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Guy Dunkle
Crawford County, PA

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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