

From: PennFuture [pennfuture@pennfuture.org] on behalf of Gary Sojka [gsojka@bucknell.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2010 12:38 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers

Feb 10, 2010

Environmental Quality Board Environmental Quality Board

Dear Environmental Quality Board Board,

I support the proposed rules aimed at cutting down on emissions caused by outdoor wood boilers. The rule will protect public health by reducing particle pollution which is linked to asthma and other breathing problems, and heart problems. Scientific studies cited by the United States EPA report potentially

serious adverse health effects from breathing smoke from these boilers.

EPA cites fine particle and toxic air pollution as the source of these health effects, and notes that fine particle pollution is linked to asthma, reduced lung function, heart problems, and premature death in people with heart and lung disease.

One outdoor wood boiler alone produces the same amount of pollution as 205 oil furnaces, 8,000 natural gas furnaces, or four heavy duty diesel trucks.

Limiting or prohibiting the use of wood boilers in the summer (when they are less necessary for home heating) would provide significant quality of life benefits to neighbors, who report that they sometimes must keep their windows closed even in the warmer months to keep out smoke and odors.

I support the adoption of the wood burner rule and hope that DEP will also enforce the rule if it is accepted.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary Sojka
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