From:

Linda Godfrey [Igodfrey@chilitech.net] Friday, February 12, 2010 7:48 AM

Sent: To:

EP, RegComments

Subject:

Proposed rulemaking-Outdoor Wood-fired Boilers-25 PA Code, Chapters 121 and 123

To: Environmental Quality Board

PO Box 8477

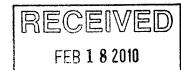
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

From: Linda Godfrey

164 State Route 304

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Winfield, PA 17889



INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

RE: Proposed rulemaking 25 PA. Code, Chapters 121 and 123 - Outdoor Wood-fired Boilers

I support the proposed rules aimed at cutting down on emissions caused by outdoor wood-fired boilers. The rule will protect public health by reducing particle pollution — which is linked to asthma and other breathing problems, and heart problems. I am an asthma sufferer who lives in close proximity to three outdoor wood burners. The burners give off thick black smoke that has a strong, lingering odor and is irritating to the eyes.

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 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.

Thank you.

Linda Godfrey 164 State Route 304 Apt. 1 Winfield, PA 17889