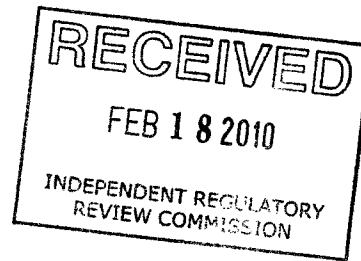


From: emmeg@comcast.net
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2010 12:38 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: OWB Regulations

Importance: High

February 12, 2010

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



RE: Proposed Rulemaking - Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers (#7-444)

Dear Environmental Quality Board:

My father and I chose to heat our homes, business and all domestic hot water with an OWB about one and a half years ago after we did considerable research. We received literature from eight dealers who advertised in the Lancaster Farming News. We also conducted some research over the Internet.

We met and became friends with two local people who had the same furnace and both were very happy. We contacted the manufacturer and they said they were now selling what they termed a "hybrid furnace" with much less smoke, so we purchased one of their new units. None of the literature we read at the time of our purchase said anything about EPA Phase II certified or mentioned a tag coloring system.

Our furnace is located thirty feet from our business entrance. We have it behind a screen of ten to fifteen foot high evergreens. We also installed a thirteen foot high stainless steel stack on it. As of the writing of this letter our furnace has been running continuously for over six hundred days.

We burn only dry three year old seasoned wood. We have not heard of a single complaint from any of our neighbors or customers regarding smoke or odor.

We do feel some regulations and control of our OWB's are a good idea however these proposed ones seem unreasonable:

- excessive height requirement
- seasonal prohibitions
- property setback distances

We would not be opposed to random inspections of proper fuel use. This would seem un-American in that we were in compliance with all rules and zoning ordinances at the time of our boiler installation however if it would weed out some irresponsible owners we would be supportive of inspections.

We have invested over \$25,000 in our system. We have gone from using in excess of three thousand gallons of oil to less than one hundred annually. We have cut our electric usage by between twenty and twenty-five percent due to not using electric hot water heaters.

It seems to us the first step the State should take if it deems any measures are necessary is to immediately ban the sale and/or purchase of any non-Phase 2 units in the Commonwealth. It also seems reasonable that existing non-problem causing burners be "grandfathered in".

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Brenaman II - emmeg@comcast.net 2020 Stumpstown Road Mechanicsburg, PA 17055