



**From:** MeLinda Hegerle [melindah2222@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2010 11:39 AM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Subject:** proposed regulations on outdoor wood boilers

to whom it may concern,

i am taking this opportunity to voice my opposition to any regulations set on outdoor wood boilers(owb). Placing restrictions on a cheap, or free, means of heating your house is outragous, especially during a time when fuel prices are out of sight and an economy that is falling apart every day. Many residents of Pa. use wood to heat their homes, myself and husband included. We currently use an indoor wood and coal stove to provide heat.

The proposed regulations would make it impossible for many residents in rural Pa. to utilize an OWB. the setback and stack requirements are totally unreal, we live on 1 acre of ground sorrounded by farmland and woods, the closest house is 450 feet away but the roof line is 160 feet above the grade level of our property, how would you construct a stack to be 162 ft high???? Our family was looking into installing an OWB, but came across the proposed regulations and realized they are completley out of line.

While looking at different models of OWB's we found there are many variations of them. Why would you put regulations on a phase 2 model that meets federal EPA standards?

As stated earlier, our house is heated by a wood and coal stove, and even when using coal we have never had complaints from anyone about smoke or fumes, my neighbor even commented this weekend that the faint smell of woodsmoke is actually pleasant on a winter day. this came about during a conversation while my husband was plowing the road to clear the snow.

Why would a one size fits all regulations be imposed on the entire state when a better solution if any would be to leave the decision up to the local municipalities?

The central area of Pa. has passed ordinances locally to take care of the problem, so why not let municipalities handle this on their level? what is good for someone in downtown Pittsburgh is not good for someone in rural Pa. and vice versa.

if anything, make it a seasonal use of OWB's during winter months only.

It seems like evryday you hear the speechs of decreasing our foreign oil dependancy and looking to renewable resources here in Pa..... what about heating with wood? seems like a renewable resource to me.

This past weekend the major snowfall brought about many news stories about people not being able to heat their homes, due to power outages and not being able to use their gas or oil furnces. Some people used generators to power their furnaces, only to be overcome by carbon monoxide(McKeesport, Pa.). If the OwB is outside, away from the house, and using a generator, this problem is eliminated.

Our residence has an automatic backup generator that powers the whole house due to the fact we live out in a rural area of westmoreland county and usually when the power goes out, it is out for 3 or 4 days, and not to mention if we would need to have oil delivered to our house it would not get here due to road conditions. so maybe a better look at rural lifestyles is in order before any regulations are enacted, even at a local level.

In closing I would like to state I am completley opposed to any regulations that would prohibit anyone from utilizing an OWB.

MeLinda Radziwon  
 959 Urich Rd.  
 Smithton, Pa. 15479