

Tate, Michele

2802

From: mtcobbpa@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2009 12:44 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: OWB regulations

RECEIVED

2009 OCT 26 PM 4:24

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
COMMISSION

The cost of heating our homes and water may be rising, but the cost of poor health stemming from the use of OWBs placed too close to neighbors is priceless. I live across the street from a phase 2 Wood Doctor OWB and have been in the midst of a heated court battle with my neighbor for 3 years. The smoke and stench that has drifted onto my property and into my home has caused a number of issues from health problems to lack of use of our land. My neighbor dictates when we can and can't open our windows. He dictates when wash can be hung and kids can play in the yard. He, like many, uses his burner as an incinerator as we pay by the bag for trash removal. These Phase 2 OWBs may be better made than in the past but they belong nowhere near children. The Phase 2 tag clearly acknowledges the following: "Exposure to smoke is responsible for respiratory and other health issues". The smoke, often invisible, contains fine particles that drift with the wind and are absorbed into the lungs, especially harmful to children.. By imposing regulations keeping these locomotives out of the neighborhood is to be true to Section 27 of the PA state constitution... "all residents will be guaranteed clean air, pure water..." There is no "right" to burn. There is a "right" to clean air. If someone has enough property to absorb the smoke and smell produced by his OWB, so be it. But if he has neighbors, he has a responsibility to them to see to it that his heat source does NOT affect their lives in a negative way. It has cost me, a widow and mother of 3 children, thousands and thousands of dollars to get this matter resolved since my township, Jefferson, Lackawanna county, has done nothing to help. Please re-think your position and note that people like me are not out to ban all OWBs, just to remove them from the neighborhood where they were never meant to be in the first place. Thank you for your time. Lisa Cummings, 901 Line Rd. Jefferson Twp. PA 18436 570-689-3075