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Tate, Michele

From: Mike Zenns [mzenns@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2009 6:26 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Cc: mcauser@pahousegop.com
Subject: 25 PA.?CODE CHS. 121 AND 123 Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers 39 Pa.B. 6068

While these proposed regulations may make sense in densely populated urban areas, especially where people may not have access to sources of clean wood fuel, they will cause an unnecessary and undue financial hardship on many residents of the rural parts of the Commonwealth. I personally see many of these outdoor wood boilers in use in Potter County by responsible individuals, creating no offensive odors with which to affect their neighbors.

In densely populated urban areas, people may burn whatever fuel is readily available, and the odors produced by these burners may not have the land area required for odor dispersal. People that live in these areas also have multiple choices in their energy budget. In Potter County, one thing we have in abundance is trees. These outdoor wood fired boilers, when used responsibly, are a wise economic choice for many in an area where energy choices are limited at best. If these regulations are enacted, many area residents will be forced to incur many hundreds, possibly thousands of dollars of increased costs to retrofit their homes with other heat sources, to say nothing of shouldering the burden of higher taxes resulting from enforcement efforts. In an area where unemployment is reaching some of the highest levels in the Commonwealth, no public transportation, no expressways to ease travel to employment, and no large population centers attracting employment opportunities, this represents government intrusion at it's worst.

Local municipalities already have the authority to regulate these installations after considering local population density, economic conditions, and availability of clean fuel sources. State-wide regulation is therefore not desirable.

I have no personal stake in these proposed regulations, as I do not own one of these devices. I do not, however, see the benefit of enacting regulations in a "one size fits all" manner in this regard.

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