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Tate, Michele

From: buckyfox@zitomedia.net
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2009 12:35 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Proposed Rulemaking Code CHS 121 & 123 - OWB

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing regarding my opposition to the proposed rulemaking regarding Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers.

First and foremost, this seems to be a "one size fits all" proposal quite simply does not make sense for the state of Pennsylvania. The variances that exist between counties south of route 80 compared with those north of route 80 are vast and any rulemaking that takes this "one size fits all" approach is, at the very least, shortsighted. I encourage the board to drop this proposed rule and instead allow local governments to address these issues in a more fitting manner.

Another example of lack of forethought and consideration in this proposal is the complete disregard for grandfathering any existing OWB installations - these new rules could cost folks with existing boilers a great deal of money installing new stacks and in many cases, moving the entire unit. It seems likely that some folks would not be able to use their boilers any more at all. Again, in these challenging economic times, it seems that those making the rules are not considering the plight of many OWB owners.

Lastly, the property line distances and stack height requirements are somewhat nonsensical in extremely rural areas - especially in the school district where I live where the State is the largest land owner.

I would strongly suggest the rulemaking board work with city and county governments south of route 80 to reduce pollution issues in those counties that have had issues in the last few years - and allow those of us north of route 80 to continue to work with our county, township and borough governments to address our issues - we have much bigger fish to fry with all of the drilling activities in our area.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing more about the status of this proposed rulemaking and how citizen's input is being considered.

Sincerely,

Harry F. Fox Jr.
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