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Chambers, Laura M.

RECEIVED

From: Ken Estep [estep01@ptdprolog.net]
Sent: Saturday, November 21, 2009 7:14 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Comments on wood fired boilers

2009 NOV 30 PM 3:34

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

PA DEP,

I am outraged at the proposed legislation the state is proposing concerning my outdoor wood fired boiler!

I have heated my home with wood all my life, and my parents heated their home with wood as well. About 5 years ago to reduce the risk of fire in my home, and provide a more even heat in my house. In my opinion my new outdoor wood fired boiler generates less smoke and emissions than my existing indoor wood stove. I believe that your proposed draft legislation on wood fired boilers is discriminative, illegal, and un-reasonable. Please be advised that I am strongly opposed to the new legislation, and if this proposed legislation is approved, I and others will be filling a class action law suit against the state for any damages imposed by the new legislation. People have been heating there homes with wood for a long time and it is a very viable and sustainable alternative to oil. The proposed legislation singles out wood fired boilers and overlooks coal, oil, gas and other in house standard boilers, and therefore in my opinion is discriminative, and illegal. Scientific research indicates that heating with wood is better for the atmosphere than other fossil fuels such as oil and coal. The proposed legislation would render the use of my outdoor wood stove unlawful, and require me to purchase an indoor boiler that in my opinion would be more harmful to the environment. If this is the case I will seek damages from the state caused by me having to purchase a new boiler. Trust me it will be top of the line with a heavy price tag, that will be paid for by the state.

In addition to the overall legislation I am specifically outrages with the excessive setback requirements, and stack height requirements, as well as the seasonal prohibition, and opacity requirements due to the subjectivity.

I would like to add that I am a good neighbor and have spoke to my nearby neighbors concerning my wood burner. They agree that my new wood burner puts off no more smoke or emissions than my previous burner, and have indicated that they have no issues with my wood stove. In fact many of my neighbors bring me wood to burn, and ask me to cut down unwanted trees on their property. When I shared with my neighbor that the state was proposing new legislation on wood fired boiler that would render my burner illegal, they were also outraged, and concerned with the leadership of our great state.

I understand that not everyone may be as good a neighbor as I am and that the need for air quality regulations are needed in some circumstances. My Township , as well as most other Townships in the state already have air quality nuisance regulations in their zoning ordinances, and are sufficient to regulate instances where there are actual verifiable nuisances in air quality. My appliance was installed and has been operated lawfully now for over 5 years. The new regulation in my opinion will be a violation of my rights a a lawful citizen, and therefore I am adamantly opposed to the new regulations.

Additionally I wish to point out my concern with the state legislature and need for corrective actions. I believe that this state should be concerned with other more crucial issues to this state such as the state budgets growing taxes and legislation. The state legislator should be more concerned with creating laws to protect lawful abiding citizens and helping them live freely without unneeded and unreasonable legislation.

Sincerely,

11/30/2009