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From: Margaret Bakker [bakkelewis@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2009 5:51 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Comments on OWB rule

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear People,

I support the proposed rule proposed by the Department of Environmental Protection to protect citizens from dangerous soot pollution and emissions caused by outdoor wood boilers (OWB's). One outdoor wood boiler alone produces the same amount of pollution as 205 oil furnaces, 8,000 natural gas furnaces, or four heavy duty diesel trucks.

We need to move Pennsylvania closer to meeting federal pollution standards. The rule will protect public health by reducing particle pollution – which is linked to asthma and other breathing problems, and heart problems.

I can speak from personal experience about the annoyance of OWB's. Our neighbor uses one and, in addition to burning wood, he burns trash which creates such a noxious smoke that, even in the hot, still nights of summer, we have to close our windows as soon as we begin to catch a wiff of the smell. It's unbearable - smells terrible and I'm sure is loaded with all kinds of dangerous pollutants. I don't have asthma yet but this doesn't help our allergies.

Please push this legislation. Is there a way to place limitations on existing boilers? There are already so many in use.

thanks,

Margaret Bakker

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