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From: dkdoerr tds.net [dkdoerr@tds.net]
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2009 12:50 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Outdoor wood-fired furnace/boiler regulations

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

I believe it is essential that the State of Pennsylvania put in place regulations which will mitigate the severe health hazard that outside wood boilers present. Living near one until it was removed a few years ago, luckily upwind, I am sure they can be worse than living with a cigarette smoker or inhaling second hand smoke in a restaurant. The furnaces are an end run around the central boiler/cookstove rule and the loophole needs to be closed. Local regulation will be ineffective.

They are extremely inefficient as shown by the smoke they emit and are a terrible setback to the green use of biomass.

I have a friend who cannot leave his air conditioned house due to respiratory problems when the smoke is lying in a 50 acre patch in the eastern end of Nippenose Valley (Collomsville, Lycoming County). Another friend had to buy an air conditioner and cannot sleep with the windows open in the summer (as he and his wife have for 60 years) due to a neighbor heating domestic hot water in the summer with one of these "smoker furnaces".

I use a wood/coal cookstove as well as an open fireplace. I burn 3-5 cords of wood a year and it is rare except on start up that any smoke comes out of my 35 foot high chimneys. I will try to attend the hearing in Williamsport on the 3rd.

Respectfully,

David Doerr
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