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To Whom It May Concern:

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

This letter is in regards to the wood-fired boiler proposal change in the state regulations.

My family lives in a small town, a town that has many wood stoves to heat the homes and garages that make up the town.

We have a wood-fired outdoor stove. My husband services it on a weekly basis and maintains it according to all the new regulations that our town has imposed.

We respect our neighbors and their personal rights at all times. We do not start our stove until it is really cold enough to use it, that means if the ordinance says not until October 1st, it was November 1st before we turned it on this year. If I remember correctly, when we were told we couldn't run our stove after the end of April this year, May was one cold month too! Gee, our neighbors still ran their wood stoves! We complied with the ordinance and shut ours down.

It is hard to understand how a regulation can be considered fair in any way at all when our neighbors have wood stoves in their homes and there is no limit on their use at all and to put restrictions on only the outdoor type stoves. How can it be fair to tell people what kind of stove they are allowed to use or when they can use it to heat their homes? May I assume that there will be a regulation in time to limit all wood burning? This seems more fair than to single out one type in particular.

The outdoor stoves are cleaner to run. No chance for fires in the house, no ashes in the house, no mess.

Has anyone taken into consideration the topography of the land? Our neighbors live across the main street from us, they are uphill from us, we have conformed to the town regulations, we added extra length to our stack, we would not be able to put enough pipe on our stove to meet the requirement. Our stove has been in use since 2001.

I take great pride in all that my family has accomplished. I take great pride in my parents and their families. What wisdom they have shown, I can honestly say that my parents have taught me to be self-sufficient and through the struggle, I could survive just about anything. When the scares come that could eliminate our freedom as we know it, I see my family coming home where they feel safe, and sure of where their next meal will come from.

Do this! Don't do that! Where does all of this end?

I respectfully send this to you for your consideration.

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