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Tate, Michele**From:** dporter190@aol.com

2009 DEC 14 PM 4:00

Sent: Monday, December 07, 2009 1:13 PM**To:** EP, RegCommentsINDEPENDENT REGULATORY
COMMISSION**Subject:** Outdoor Wood Burner regulations 25 PA.?CODE CHS. 121 AND 123

Dear Sirs,

As a current owner of an outdoor wood burner (OWB), I am extremely concerned over the proposed regulations being considered by the PA Department of Environmental Resources. I have read through the proposed regulations and find many aspects too broad sweeping for the many installations and uses of OWB's.

I can understand the concerns many non-users of OWB systems may have but that alone is not a reason to create a blanket regulation that covers all installations. The proposal makes no distinction between a homeowner with 1 acre or 1000 acres. Although my installation may already conform to the setback requirements, many users may be required to add 20 feet or more of additional chimney in order to comply. In addition, there may be 5 other homes in that same location using indoor wood stoves or fireplaces that have no such requirement.

The implementation to mandate Phase 2 OWB in PA is understandable but I believe a longer time frame is required before implementing due to the lack of proven units available on the market. This appears at first glance just a method to keep people from purchasing OWB units entirely.

The limitation of when a user can burn their OWB, banning the period between may and September is also over reaching. Once again, many users living on larger tracts of land have little or no impact on neighboring properties and choose to heat domestic water, pools etc. will now be forced to use higher cost methods using non-renewable fuel sources like electricity and oil. This limitation would effect me, since I heat my water most of the year.

Once again, I will state that a need to regulate installations of OWB to some degree may be warranted. Enacting these types of blanket regulations is a definite infringement on my ability to make a free choice in how I choose to heat my home using a renewable fuel source. I urge all board members to step back and consider less restrictive regulations regarding OWB systems. Regulations that forbids installing on a 1 acre or smaller lot I can understand, I too would not wish to live next to someone in that situation. But to regulate that type of installation the same as a homeowner living on 11 acres I strongly disagree. Please consider a much less restrictive regulations during the upcoming Board meeting.

I have always consider the use of my OWB to be responsible by using only the prescribed fuels recommended by the manufacture. To restrict my current use I feel would be a violation of my rights as a property owner in Pennsylvania. I thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Dennis M. Porter
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12/7/2009