

Environmental Quality Board
P. O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

Or **2802**

express mail:
Rachel Carson State Office Building 16th Floor
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101-2301

Or

Email: RegComments@state.pa.us.

RECEIVED

2009 DEC 14 PM 4: 23

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

RECEIVED

DEC -7 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Dear Environmental Quality Board,

I have chosen to heat my home with an outdoor wood furnace for a number of good reasons:

- With the ever changing price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG, heating with wood is an economical option – an owner that heats with wood in an outdoor furnace can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times.
- Heating with an outdoor wood furnace eliminates the risks of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning associated with an indoor heating system because the appliance is located outside. Every year literally thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices.
- Heating with wood results in no net increase in global warming gas emissions. Heating with oil, coal and natural gas is a significant source of global warming gas emissions.

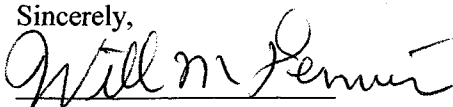
The proposed regulation for “outdoor wood-fired boilers” has the potential to impact my ability to continue utilizing my existing appliance. I am strongly opposed to:

- Excessive chimney height requirements for existing and new furnace installations that are not based upon science.
 - Excessive chimney height requirements are costly (parts and height determination), time consuming and may prevent a large number of owners from being able to comply.
- Seasonal prohibition between May 1 and September 30. A statewide seasonal restriction for rural owners, people with their own wood lots, farming operations, greenhouse operations is unreasonable.
- Opacity requirements for residential sized appliances because opacity is a subjective visual observation.

While it is foreseeable that furnace owners creating verifiable nuisances need to increase their chimney to alleviate complaints, it is unreasonable for the Pa DEP to retroactively impose restrictions (with the exception of proper fuel use) on my existing outdoor wood furnace. My appliance was purchased, installed, and operated in good faith prior to the drafting of the regulation.

I am opposed to the excessive and retroactive requirements of the proposed regulation. If passed as currently written, I believe that the regulation will adversely impact my rights and the rights of existing outdoor wood furnace owners that use these appliances in a responsible manner. I am supportive of a state law requiring existing furnace owners to have to comply with proper fuel use requirements and for regulations regarding new installations to be reasonable.

Sincerely,



Date: 11-28-09

Dear Sir. Please do not take my outdoor wood stove away. It is a vital part of my family's economic well being. We save roughly 4,000 dollars a winter by using it instead of heating with oil and the domestic coal helps with the electric bill also. I grew up in a family that heated with wood and have heated my house with wood for over thirty years. My family would rather spend these savings every winter in the local economy, then send the money to the middle East. Please do not take this basic freedom of choice away.

Sincerely
William Jensen

12-2-09