

Tate, Michele

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From: Carl Wentworth [carlwentworth@verizon.net]

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Sent: Monday, December 07, 2009 8:44 PM**To:** EP, RegCommentsINDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION**Subject:** Outdoor wood boiler regulation

I am commenting about a newspaper article in the Warren Times Observer December 7, 2009 about outdoor wood boiler regulations. I assume this report is accurate.

Although they are called outdoor wood boiler (OWD) this is a mistaken identification. These are "wood burning outdoor boilers" . In fact some units do not boil wood or water they are forced air units.

Since I own and use a "wood burning outdoor boiler" I have first hand knowledge about these devices and a financial interest in what government regulations are enacted.

The concern about the smokestack is perhaps without any scientific reasoning. The problem with these units is that they do not run continuously. When the units cycle on, a smoke cloud is unavoidable. My experience with a higher smokestack has been that it is not effective for this problem.

The concern over emissions is without merit. Wood is a renewable fuel source that when burned returns all natural compounds back into the environment. The emissions are being used as a cover for regulation of a smokey problem.

The article states that other acceptable materials can be burned. What are these other acceptable products?

This regulation seems to unfair target a minority of people who use wood for heating. What about those who have wood burning stoves and boilers inside their houses? What about these wood pellet stoves? What about campfires?

Yes the smoke can be a nuisance. Perhaps regulation about actual amounts of smoke drifting onto neighboring property should be considered.