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Chambers, Laura M.

From: Glen Cindy Hulings [hulings@pennswoods.net] 2009 DEC 17 PM 4:09
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2009 11:08 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Wood-Fired Boiler Proposal

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

To whom it may concern:

We are writing this letter in regards to the proposed wood-fired boiler regulations. As current owners of an outside wood boiler we are very against these new restrictions. After just spending nearly \$6000 on a new stove to replace an older model, my husband and I are very upset with the restrictions the Environmental Quality Board is proposing. These restrictions are unfair and practically impossible for people to adhere too. We have owned an outside wood boiler for the last 13 years, and in 13 years of using this source of energy to heat our home we figure we have saved ourselves over \$20,000 and have kept our family warm during the winter months. It is impossible for us to follow these new restrictions. First of all we do not own 150 feet in any direction, our lot in James City Pennsylvania is 50x105', and we have neighbors surrounding our property on all 4 sides that are closer than 150 feet. If our stack was to be 2 feet higher than the peak of our closest neighbor within 500" feet, we would have to have a chimney at least 75-80' tall. We live in a single story mobile home, and the closest neighbor, 500 ft away, lives in a 2-story home that is 40-50' tall, not to mention there is probably a 25' drop in elevation from their house to ours. There is no way a chimney that high would be stable, and would be very dangerous.

Thirteen years ago we decided to heat with wood, as it was and still is much cheaper for us, than to heat with natural gas, not to mention our house is warm. The average temperature in our house during the winter months is 75-80 degrees. We would not be able to even touch that temperature heating with natural gas, or be able to afford it.

These stoves burn wood no differently than a fireplace or a wood burning stove that someone has in place inside their home, and there are no regulations for these. The government should not be placing regulations on these outside wood burners, as long as people are burning the proper fuel in them. The regulations that are proposed are unfair and absolutely ridiculous, no one will be able to adhere to them. Local governing bodies can regulate these with their ordinances if they so choose to.

At a time like this, when our economy is in such a dire state, people are trying to save money anywhere they can. Electricity is going to skyrocket after the first of the year, gas prices are up, and the government now wants to make it so people can't burn wood to heat their homes. We hope that this is one of many letters you receive on this matter, and you rethink the restrictions you are considering.

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