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**Chambers, Laura M.**

**From:** Herbert Rinkel [hrinkeljr@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 12, 2009 9:25 AM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Subject:** outdoor wood furnace regulations

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

To whom it may concern, last year i purchased and installed a central boiler outdoor wood furnace. A lot of thought, time, and questions were involved in this decision. When we bought our house in 1998 there was a wood stove in the house that we used to heat the house. While cleaning the chimney i discovered a crack in the flue. We discussed fixing the flue and decided not to for a number of reasons, number one since buying the house there is a house being built next door. The chimney on the house is 56 feet away from this home. The smoke blows up against the home. I know if i were building a new home this would be a problem for me. Number 2, my son has dust allergies. The dust from the wood would be on everything in the house. so for the reasons mentioned above we decided to heat the house differently. We decided to go with a oil fired hot water furnace. Our minds were quickly changed when the price of fuel oil went to five dollars a gallon. I was talking to a friend about this and he mentioned the outdoor furnace. After looking into it we decided to go to the township and look into the codes. We discovered that i was the first person to apply for a permit and that they had no codes pertaining to outdoor furnaces. I then went home and drew a plan showing where we were putting the furnace and the distances from all buildings within three hundred feet. The furnace ended up being 142ft from the house on the right and 142ft from the house being built next door. The furnace also ended up being 65ft further back on the lot. We then bought some tiki torches and watched which way the prevailing winds were blowing. the wind blows the smoke in the direction of a 600 acre hunting camp that our property borders. We then went and talked to all of our neighbors who we thought would be affected and told them what we were planning to do. When there were no objections from our neighbors we went to the township for the permits. We installed the furnace with the chimney as high as the one on the house which is 20ft tall. We had everything inspected and it was passed by our township building inspector. We were told that if it became an issue that we may have to increase our chimney height. We then received a letter from the town that they received a complaint. I talked to my neighbors and asked if they had any issues and none of them did. I then asked for someone from the town to come by and watch the furnace working because i was amazed by how little the furnace smokes. They told me that i had done everything that they had asked up to that point. everything had been inspected and approved and that coming out to watch it was not necessary and seeing how 6 of my neighbors burn wood who can tell where the smoke is coming from. We burn seasoned, dry oak, maple, ash, and walnut. our wood pile is covered by tarps. We do not burn anything in the furnace that we would not burn in the stove inside. We also shut our furnace down in the summer. I like to open the windows on nice summer days and i would not like to smell smoke as my neighbors don't want to either. The furnace smokes considerably less than our neighbors homes that have wood stoves. I am writing this to let you know there are people who use these furnaces responsibly and have tried to install these with respect to other people. I ask you to protect our right to use our furnace. My name is Herbert Rinkel 256 locust drive Milford ,Pa. 18337

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