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Kathy Cooper

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2016 5:24 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRRC; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; gvitali@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; apankake@pasen.gov
Cc: ra-epmsdevelopment@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Radiological Health and Radon Certification Fees; Pennsylvania Radon Mitigation System Tag and Fee



Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Radiological Health and Radon Certification Fees; Pennsylvania Radon Mitigation System Tag and Fee.

Commenter Information:

Maria Stinger
Certified Radon Tester (maria@keystonebuildinginspections.com)
1936 Park Manor Boulevard 15811
Pittsburgh, PA 15244 US

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Comments entered:

As licensed Testers & Mitigators, we detect and mitigate the second leading cause of lung cancer and the largest naturally occurring radiation exposure to the public. Our business is driven by real estate sales. Every incremental increase in costs to home buyers and home sellers eliminates another block of potential homes being tested. Affordability is already an issue for many first time home buyers, particularly low income consumers. A fee increase will eliminate testing for our most vulnerable population.

If we as an industry continue to add additional fees to the home buying public, Pennsylvania families will decide not to test and increase their chances of contracting lung cancer. Testers and Mitigators cannot continue to absorb the high cost of offering Radon testing and Radon mitigation services (keep in mind our operating costs associated with this service, fuel, automobile costs, continuing education, quality control and quality assurance, equipment, etc. continues to escalate). The economic impact to Pennsylvania's economy will be far reaching.

A proper analysis should be completed before any increase in fees is instituted with participation from Department representatives and licensed testers and mitigators from across the Commonwealth.

How will the additional funds be allocated? We need more public outreach to educate buyers and sellers in Pennsylvania, improve the Radon program in Pennsylvania, and improve public awareness so that existing home owners test their homes. A fee increase will certainly decrease

the number of tests in Pennsylvania, negatively impact home sales and reduce the number of certified Testers and Mitigators. The market will not sustain a price increase.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

Jessica Shirley
Acting Director, Office of Policy
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063
Office: 717-783-8727
Fax: 717-783-8926
ecomment@pa.gov