

Members of the Environmental Committee,

This proposal "Raised Bill # 84", does not exclude farms in Connecticut. We own and have operated a outside wood furnace to provide heat and hot water year round, since 2003. The furnace is used year round not just between September and May, and the chimney is about 1 1/2 foot tall. We strongly disagree with this proposal.

When we purchased this property in 2002, we used 3500 gallons of heating oil. In 2003 we installed the wood furnace and reduced our oil consumption to 275 - 450 gallons per year. The EPA is cited as the back stop for this proposal. We have in utilizing 3,000 to 3,250 gallons less each year since 2003 **dramatically reduced** our carbon foot print!

In the first year, we purchased oil that was transported from the middle east to a refinery in the Caribbean, where the oil was fractured and made into heating oil, and then shipped to Hess depot in Groton, CT. From there the heating oil was trucked to our property in Ledyard several times during 2002-03 heating season. This approach utilizes a great deal of energy to get the fuel to our farm, which is a really big carbon foot print.

In the second year, on our farm, after installing our outside wood furnace, we had only one delivery of heating fuel. The rest of our heat was provided by wood either from our property, (97 acres) or found along the side of the road. Remember when trees were trimmed to protect power lines. That wood is one of the potential heating sources.

This approach has significantly reduced our carbon foot print (meeting EPA's mandate), and reduces our costs allowing us to stay in business and continue paying taxes.

To not utilize our furnace will exluate our costs to a point where we may not be able to continue in business, and that will reduce the taxes you will be able to collect!

Sincerely,
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