

13 November 2011

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Dear Mr. Wagener,

We are addressing this message to you, as we are not able to attend the forum on November 16<sup>th</sup>. One can see from the attached correspondence that we are at our wits end. We have been suffering for about two years now, from our neighbor's outdoor wood furnace. Most days, we cannot sit outside on our deck, open our windows, work in our yard, or enjoy our swimming pool with our friends or family. Often, there is a pungent, noxious odor that permeates our air... all due to our neighbor's OWF owned by Mr. Dan Stokes. We have approached and pleaded every organization, agency and town board (as you can see from our letters)... and no one will help us by enforcing the law. There are times in the summer where the smoke is so bad, that our smoke detectors will sound. In fact, we have two disconnected, resulting in our family not being adequately protected. This is just not right.

At one point we approached the DEP. After repeated calls, they came up to "inspect" this OWF. Initially, it was not in compliance with respect to its installation, so our neighbor proceeded to correct the violations. This only served to make the situation worse. We have a topology which makes the smoke collect in another neighbor's front yard, the Gelada's, and continues down our driveway right into our home. We are not close in proximity by any measure, however the contour of the land makes a natural chimney for the smoke to travel. Mr. Gelada suffers from asthma, and at times has been in peril as a result of the smoke. He is forced to keep his home shut tight, and the air conditioning turned on. Even when we have predictions of beautiful summer evenings, neither of us can enjoy them. It is far more than a simple nuisance. By the DEP's own admission, it's dangerous to our health, and it is seriously undermining our property values. Neither of us can understand why no action has been taken to shut this OWF down.

The law appears clear to us. We have on record, numerous reports to the air quality department of the DEP, and all we hear from them is that they are being recorded. Does one of us have to contract some serious illness or worse... before anything is done?

We would love to see these OWF's banned from use throughout the state, but in the near term, we would settle for the DEP or the Board of Health to simply enforce the law.

Should you wish to discuss this matter in greater detail, or would just like to come and experience our plight first hand, please feel free to contact us... we would be happy to meet with you at a mutually agreeable time.

Thanking you in advance for your help and consideration,

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Attachments (2)