Attachment D

Comments Received after Sept Hearing

000028
Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

From: "Carman, Sorahana" <SCarman@citrusheights.net>
To: "Karpinski-Costa, Jayna" <JKarpinski-costa@citrusheights.net>
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2007 12:52 PM
Subject: Call Received - Janet Tyas

Jayna:

Janet Tyas wanted to let you know she does not want woodburning restrictions. She has an EPA approved stove, and heats her house during winter with her woodburning stove. She left her number - 916-723-8101.

Sorahana Carman

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Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.10/908 - Release Date: 7/19/2007 6:10 PM

000029

9/13/2007
Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

From:  "Carman, Sorahana" <SCarman@citrusheights.net>
To:    "Karpinski-Costa, Jayna" <JKarpinski-costa@citrusheights.net>
Sent:  Monday, July 23, 2007 12:07 PM
Subject: Call Received - John Ryan

Jayna,

I received a call from John Ryan a resident of Citrus Heights. He saw an advertisement relating to the restrictions on burning wood stoves. He says he changed out his old stove for a new clean burning stove at a considerable expense. Mr. Ryan can be reached at 916-726-0724.

Sorahana Carman

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Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.14/912 - Release Date: 7/22/2007 7:02 PM
Jayna,

I received a call from Betty Gordon, a resident of Citrus Heights, in response to the residential wood burning card she received in the mail. She wants to have her voice be heard, and went on to relate they have a catalytic converter insert in their fireplace, and therefore, her fireplace does not produce smoke. She left her phone number - 726-6786.

Sorahana Carman

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Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.11.19/953 - Release Date: 8/14/2007 5:19 PM
Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

From: "Carman, Sorahana" <SCarman@citrushights.net>
To: "Karpinski-Costa, Jayna" <JKarpinski-costa@citrushights.net>
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2007 12:47 PM
Subject: Call Received - Regarding Rule 421

Jayna,

I retrieved a call from voicemail from Amy of Ryan Bros. Chimney Sweeping (also member of Hearth, Patio, and BBQ Association) regarding voting on the Air Quality meeting set for September 21st. She would like a return call at 339-2220 or cell- 622-1224.

Sorahana Carman

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000032
Jayna,

I retrieved a call from voice mail from David McKenzie of 8342 Fairway in CH. He is calling regarding the voting on the ban on wood fireplaces. He thinks you should not vote that in at all as he has a clean burning, EPA approved, certified stove that has a catalytic converter. He can be reached at 723-1260.

Sorahana Carman

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Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

From: "Carman, Sorahana" <SCarman@citrusheights.net>
To: "Karpinski-Costa, Jayna" <JKarpinski-costa@citrusheights.net>
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2007 2:44 PM
Subject: Call Received - Mr. Marciosa

Jayna,

I retrieved a message from my voicemail from Mr. Marcosia, a Citrus Heights resident, simply wanting to let you know he opposes the program regarding mandatory no burn days.

Sorahana Carman

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000034
Jayna,

I received a call from a citizen that is opposed to the proposed Rule 421. She said her husband just had eye surgery and they are not able to attend the upcoming Sept. 27th downtown meeting. She left her number of 725-4623.

Sorahana Carman

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Hi Jayna,

I received a call from Bob Clegg, a Citrus Heights resident that wanted to let you know he is opposed to Rule 421. I let him know about the Sept. 27th meeting in downtown Sac.

Thanks!

Sorahana Carman

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Jayna,

I received a call from Amy Ryan of Ryan Bros. Chimney Sweeping. She is a resident of CH. She wanted to have an appointment to discuss the upcoming vote on Rule 421. Her number is 339-2220.

I received a call from Sherry Wilhelm, resident of CH regarding the same issue. Her number is 722-3808.

I told them both about the upcoming public hearing next week.

Sorahana Carman

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000037
Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

From: "Carman, Sorahana" <SCarman@citrusheights.net>
To: "Karpinski-Costa, Jayna" <JKarpinski-costa@citrusheights.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2007 2:23 PM
Subject: Call Received - Ron Johnson

Jayna,

Ron Johnson has called to speak to you regarding Rule 421. He also wanted to relay that he thought Council Members should be more accessible. His contact number is 916.726.1619.

Sorahana Carman

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I understand you represent the city of Citrus Heights at the Sacramento Air Resource Board. I am writing you because I am concerned with the potential passage of rule 421. This will have a direct impact on my family. We have used wood to heat our home for 10+ years. We do have a gas FAU however, this cost us money to use. I am able to receive my firewood at little cost to me. I believe this law is a direct violation of our Fifth amendment, which reads in part "nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation". By banning the use of my legally installed wood stoves, this law would be taking away my property (the wood stove) without just compensation. I would think the only way the board could limit my use of my legal wood stove would be to pay my PG&E bill. It would be much easier for me to turn a switch on as opposed to cutting, splitting and stacking firewood. I would encourage you and the board to vote this bill down. Encourage people to install clean burning wood stoves and fireplaces. If everyone had a clean burning appliance I think this would do a lot to address your concern for clean air.

Don Knight

Need a vacation? Get great deals to amazing places on Yahoo! Travel.
Greetings,

As a resident of Sacramento and a responsible homeowner. I have installed a non-catalytic clean burning woodstove in my residence. With the high price of natural gas, this is our sole source of heat. Although we do have central Heat/Air, we turned off the gas to the Central heating unit about 4 years ago.

I'm insisting on my right to use my woodstove responsibly and not to be told when I can use it during the cold winter months.

Since I will not be able to attend the hearing on September 27, 2007 in person, I have thus called as many members of the Board as possible and am also sending this email to let my voice be heard.

I do not want to lose an important choice of burning wood responsibly. I'm insisting on my right to use my clean-burning woodstove on limited burn (curtailment) days.

Sincerely,

Mario Campos
1922 Ortega Street
Sacramento, CA 95820
916) 455-7407
916) 220-9200
Jayna,

Following are calls received regarding the upcoming Air District meeting:

- Had a voicemail from an unidentified caller that stated they had a pellet stove and they are against the vote.
- Myle (sp?) 220-9200, he bought a clean burning stove. He is opposed to the rule. I called him back and relayed the info for the upcoming Air District meeting.
- Vicky Green, 323-2150, bought a $4,000 system during the change out program and uses it for heat during winter. She is opposed, and asks you to vote no. I also told her of the public hearing, and she said she already had plans of attending.
- Al Born, 722-8141, a Citrus Heights resident, purchased a $3,000 pellet stove. He is unable to make the public hearing as he has a doctor's appointment. He wanted you to know he asks you to vote no.
- Had a voicemail from an unidentified caller stating they had an efficient wood burning stove and are against Rule 421.
- Received a call from Darlene Mussman - 486-5094, would you consider excluding the EPA certified wood burning stoves from the no burn ban.

All these calls came in prior to our conversation this afternoon.

Sorahana Carman

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Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

From: <mtnrelaxn@comcast.net>
To: <jyang@airquality.org>; <jyee@saccounty.net>; <dickinsonr@saccounty.net>; <jstarsky@folsom.ca.us>
      <dclare@ci.galt.ca.us>; <jtkarpinski-costa@citrusheights.net>; <gdavis@elkgrovecity.org>
      <ssheedy@cityofsacramento.org>; <kmccarty@cityofsacramento.org>; <lhammond@cityofsacramen
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2007 5:40 PM
Subject: Rule 421 Concern and Public Comment

All:

Please consider amending Rule 421 as currently written to exempt EPA certified Wood Stove Inserts and Pellet Stoves from the No Burn Day Restrictions. As written it seems to penalize those that spent considerable sums of money purchasing EPA certified Wood Stove Inserts and Pellet Stoves. These folks took the initiative on their own to help curb air pollution, yet Rule 421 does not take this into consideration. As the facts and graphs point out these EPA certified Wood Stoves Inserts and Pellet Stoves are efficient and lean burning.

the Board will not consider a full exemption as a minimum please consider a tiered system.

Thank you for your reconsideration of Rule 421.

Hor Lude
Folsom Resident
Please read the attachment before making a decision on the use of Sacramento area residents using EPA approved wood and pellet stoves.

Thank you, Curtis R. Foley
As I am unable to attend the meeting on proposed new Rule 421, I am submitting my comments below.

It is my understanding that this new rule, if passed, would include the extremely low-particulate emission pellet stoves that two years ago you pushed on Sacramentans and continue to push on your web site, even as you attempt to push this rule through.

This is outrageous!! Even after an investment of $3,000 in a new pellet stove, you’re now trying to tell me you can keep me from using it at your discretion.

I strongly urge you to exempt low-emission pellet stoves from this rule, as their impact on environmental air conditions are negligible, compared to wood-burning fireplaces and stoves.

Thank you.

Pamela J. Pinkston
300 Kilborn Drive
Fair Oaks, CA 95628
(916) 961-7469
From: "Hagar" <hagar1@wans.net>
To: "costa" <jkarpinski-Costa@citrushights.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2007 1:57 PM
Subject: Proposed Rule 421

Dear Board Member,

Given the fact that you will be attempting to thrust upon us even more
noxious conditions regarding the use of our fireplaces I find that I
must protest in the most vehement of terms. As you are willing to
ignore, for political reasons, the biggest problem with our wintertime
air, that of automobile exhaust, I find your attempt to simple pick the
low hanging fruit of fireplaces as completely disingenuous at best.
Several years ago we purchased at great expense, a low emission output,
EPA approved insert, if you proceed how we might as well have just
flushed the money down the toilet. Our investment in cleaner burning
technology will mean nothing.

As our family is at least able to afford keeping ourselves warm in winter
by the burning of seasoned wood in our EPA approved fireplace insert,
our proposed regulations will now force us to attempt to stay warm
through exclusive use of the expensive SMUD and PG&E. We simply cannot
afford keep our family warm by this much more expensive means, we have
access to seasoned wood at very low cost and this is our primary means
of staying warm in winter.

Please do not offer us a personally degrading subsidy or low income
credit or such. We try to take pride in ourselves on being
self-supporting which you are now be taking from us.

As we have no government bureaucracy or group bureaucrats to plead our
case or speak on our behalf, we implore you to be more practical in the
regulation of fireplace or fireplace insert.

As you continue to create more and more anger in the community you will
reap even more disgust and resentment of the system you purport to
represent.

Respectfully,
Harry Svardal
armichael

000045
Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

From:  "Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa" <vetlaw@surewest.net>
To:    "John Ryan" <ryanbrothers@sbcglobal.net>
Sent:  Wednesday, September 26, 2007 3:01 PM
Subject: Re: Proposed Meeting

It has been my consistent policy not to have private meetings on public matters. I would invite you to speak your viewpoint at the public hearing.

But I might add that your business and others like it that are opposing this rule have done a HUGE disservice to the people of his region by sending out a hate notice to your customers. They are enraged without having the facts. I will confess that I read all the mail and phone call messages with sadness, not sympathy. Hate messages are not persuasive. Shame on your profession.

Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

----- Original Message ----- 
From: John Ryan
To: jkarpinski-costa@citrushights.net
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2007 1:45 PM
Subject: Proposed Meeting

Dear Councilwoman Karpinski-Costa,

Good afternoon, I would like to make an appointment with you to discuss a rule you’ll be voting on at the Air Quality Management District Board meeting on the 27th of September.

The rule you’ll be voting on is Rule 421 regarding wood-burning in Sacramento. I am with Ryan Bros. Chimney Sweeping, as well as the HPBA (Hearth, Patio, Barbecue Association) and would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you regarding this.

Thank you for your time.

Amie Ryan
Ryan Bros. Chimney Sweeping
Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa

From: "Carman, Sorahana" <SCarman@citrusheights.net>
To: "Karpinski-Costa, Jayna" <JKarpinski-costa@citrusheights.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2007 3:08 PM
Subject: Rule 421 Calls

Jayna,

The following calls were retrieved from voice mail from folks that had no internet or they did not leave a message.

9/25 I received a voicemail from Mr. Shalduk of 8260 Oak, asking that a no vote be placed. (He did not leave a number)

9/25 I received a call from Ann Marie Vincent 444-5900. I called her and she may be emailing you.

9/26 Ordell Ruler 383-7717. She just wants to let you know she wants the NO vote.

Sorahana Carman
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000047
Kathie Schievelbein  
8554 Kenneth View Court  
Fair Oaks, California 95628

Board of Supervisors  
700 H Street  
Ste. 2450  
Sacramento, California 95814  
September 27, 2007

Re. Rule 421: Mandatory No-Burn Restrictions in Sacramento County

Dear Board Members:

I am opposed to the implementation of Rule 421: Mandatory No-Burn Restrictions in Sacramento County. I purchased a woodstove insert two years ago in an effort to reduce my winter heating bills. The conversion was from a standard wood burning fireplace to an efficient, clean burning wood stove that would serve as a supplemental method of heating my home. I did considerable research to determine the best options available on the market, level of efficiency of pellet/wood burning stoves, spoke to industry representatives, chimney sweep companies and determined that for my needs, the wood burning stove insert was best suited for purposes of helping heat my home during winter months and of course still provide the aesthetic advantages I sought to continue to enjoy the ambiance a fire brings on a winter day/evening. Encouraged by the local air district stove change out program; purchasing a cleaner burning EPA certified unit, was environmentally consistent with efforts for cleaner air in Sacramento County during months of November, December, January and February, I purchased a wood burning stove. The selection of wood-burning over a pellet stove was based upon the ability to operate it even during power outages.

My primary concern in the decision to go to a woodstove insert, was to reduce the cost of my winter heating bill which averaged $277-$300 per billing cycle, depending upon the relative outside temperature. Since installation and operation over two winter seasons, my average cost per billing cycle is now approximately $77-$120. This is a significant reduction in cost.

I am a single-income homeowner, I apply considerable effort to conserve energy where possible including the installation of a whole house fan to reduce electrical usage during summer months, car-pooling to work and telecommuting once per week to reduce air emissions and congestion on the freeways, respectively. When the notice is issued by the air district to not burn stoves/fireplaces, I comply without hesitation. Otherwise, I use the woodstove insert in balance with the gas furnace. Typically, I heat the lower-level (two-story structure) primarily using the woodstove insert, set the thermostat at 65/66 degrees and wear warm-inducing clothing throughout the season. Through this tandem method, I'm able to maintain a reasonable temperature throughout the house and keep my heating costs at equally reasonable levels.

I reviewed the 2007 "Wood Burning Research Final Report" conducted by the Aurora Research Group, downloaded from the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District web site, reviewed the results and found them inconclusive but nonetheless educational. Among the results of the survey, the following was of particular interest:

- A relatively small percentage of surveyed "wood burners" are woodstove/pellet stove burners;
A small sample size of the population polled of wood burners was not found to be statistically different from other groups polled;

- 25% of those polled in the survey cited environmental concerns as the primary reason for not burning last year; 14% didn't burn because they were asked to voluntarily not burn by the County; 7% cited health concerns;
- Four in ten of the respondents said that wood burning was not a serious cause of air pollution but that traffic was the serious contributor to the quality of air in the County;
- 80% of indoor pellet burning and 87% of indoor woodstove burning is for supplemental heat;
- The vast majority of all respondents surveyed, approved of a voluntary no-burn rule and 93% would comply with a voluntary no-burn system of controlling the relative amount of pellet and woodstove burning contributions to the overall air quality in the County.

Education was cited in the survey results as being both a need and a useful mechanism for changing public attitudes respecting how much and when they burn during winter months. Yet the mechanism the District is advancing to address air emissions, is through mandatory no-burn regulation. This places an unreasonable and disproportionate burden on a small community of overall emissions contributors, the majority of which use pellet and woodstove burning to provide supplemental heat during winter months.

Rule 421 would result in a significant adverse impact to me, my home and budget if approved and passed. I'd rather my tax money be spent on a comprehensive program designed to educate residential burners about the impact of burning on days when the air quality is already compromised by vehicle traffic and other sources of emissions, than on regulatory compliance measures with enforcement programs that are ineffective and which target innocent property owners who, on a monthly basis, have to make wrenching energy choices just to provide basic and necessary services to live in this climate and region. Consider development of a comprehensive public outreach program with focused newsletters, community events designed to educate the public as to responsible residential burning practices, informative seminars on the latest energy-saving methods of home heating and cooling. Develop an ad-hoc committee made up of members of various heating/cooling-related industries, public agencies, members of local communities to examine ways to inform and educate the public of the need to be an active part of efforts for cleaner air in the County, and to encourage public compliance with voluntary no-burn days.

Don't under estimate the community and our awareness of being part of the team of Sacramento Valley environmentally conscience residents, we are a responsible group of folks. Keep the voluntary no-burn program in place.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comment.

Kathie L. Schievelbein
8554 Kenneth View Court
Fair Oaks, CA 95628
(916) 989-4516 (H)
(916) 322-6756 (W)

Cc: Supervisor Roberta MacGlashan
TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kathie Schievelbein
8554 Kenneth View Court
Fair Oaks, California 95628

SUBJECT: Proposed Adoption of New Rule 421: Mandatory Episodic Curtailment of Solid Fuel Burning

- Thank you for the opportunity to be heard on the proposed adoption of New Rule 421: Mandatory Episodic Curtailment of Solid Fuel Burning.
- I object to the adoption of this rule.
- I live in Fair Oaks, Sacramento County
- I own and seasonally operate an EPA Certified wood stove insert.
- I am a single-income household
- I purchased a wood stove insert two years ago, encouraged by the local air district stove change out program, I decided to convert my inefficient fireplace to a clean-burning, efficient-heating wood stove insert. My primary objective was to supplement the heating of my house and offset the high cost of heating my home which had previously been exclusively done through the operation of an electric central heating system.
- Prior to installation and use of the wood stove insert, my heating bill over the months of November, December, January and February averaged between $277-$300 per billing cycle.
- Since installation and operation of the wood stove insert as a heating supplement to the central heating system, my heating bill over the same period of months now averages between $77-$120 per billing cycle.
- I accomplish this savings by operating my wood stove insert in tandem with my central heating system which I keep at 64-65 degree set back temperature.
- The savings in energy costs is between approximately $100 to $200 dollars per monthly budget cycle, depending upon the relative outside temperatures each month.
- Such savings for a single-income household is significant when you factor in the current overall costs of energy, fuel and general cost of living expenses that characterize this Region.

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

- Senate Bill 656 provides that the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (District) implement cost-effective control measures for particulate matter emissions.
- The Rule the District is proposing, however, is narrowly focused on a relatively small concentration of particulate matter emission contributors without having fully examined the full range of contributors to particulate matter emissions throughout the County.
Specifically, the District has determined that the proposed rule is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act based upon the District status as a regulatory agency, meaning no comprehensive environmental analysis has or will be conducted to support the proposed rule.

Moreover, the “Wood Burning Research” study and final report conducted by Aurora Research Group under the direction of the District, resulted in inconclusive findings. That the District is using this inconclusive study as substantial evidence to support the proposed rule, is irresponsible as a public agency.

REQUESTED ACTION BY THE BOARD

- The proposed rule is a “project” pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, section 15378, and is therefore considered to be an activity directly undertaken by the District, a public agency.
- I disagree with the District’s determination that the proposed rule is exempt from CEQA.
- I proposed that the project, the proposed Rule 421, be comprehensively examined through the preparation of a full Environmental Impact Report wherein all selections of the reasonable ranges of alternatives, including specific economic, social, legal and technical considerations are analyzed regarding the proposed rule before the Board renders a final vote on the matter.
- From an economic standpoint, I object to the proposed rule because I am a single-income household. My salary is the only financial support of my monthly budget. To impose this rule which will effectively increase the number of days on which I will not be able to supplement my home heating through the operation of my EPA Certified wood stove insert, will be a devastating blow to an already economically-challenged budget.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be heard.
September 27, 2007

Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails is dedicated to healthy air and preventing lung and other air pollution related diseases. We support Rule 421 which seeks to legislate no burning on days with poor air quality, during the winter months. It is particularly important to prohibit wood burning on days when weather conditions can trap smoke near the ground. Wood smoke is the single largest source of winter time air pollution contributing about 45% and remains one of the few unregulated sources of PM. We urge you to adopt this rule as the District staff as drafted which includes certified devices and pellet stoves.

It is important to include certified devices and pellet stoves in the no burn restriction, because even the cleanest certified wood burning devise will emit 100 times more PM into the atmosphere than a gas fireplace. These devices contribute to about 7% of the wood burning emissions. Inclusion of these devices could make the difference in our District reaching attainment.

Another reason to include certified devices is the fact that most people would find it difficult to know if their devise meets today’s standard or not. They would have to check the serial number which is on the back of the stove and would require them to pull their stove out of the wall. Most residents would not bother. 2ndly, just because a stove is certified does not mean that it will automatically burn cleanly. The resident must operate and maintain it properly. That means burning only hard and very dry wood and conducting annual maintenance. Regulating certified devices to ensure that they are maintained and used properly would be impossible to enforce.

On the health side of the discussion, wood smoke contains hundreds of chemical compounds to include nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, organic gases, and particulate matter. Many of these compounds can cause serious health problems. Several of these pollutants have demonstrated cancer-causing properties similar to cigarette smoke. Children, the elderly, pregnant women and people with respiratory ailments are especially susceptible to these pollutants.

Among the health impacts are premature death; respiratory-related hospital admissions; aggravated asthma; acute respiratory symptoms,
Continued

including aggravated coughing and difficult or painful breathing; chronic bronchitis; and decreased lung function that can be experienced as shortness of breath.

For a comparison, if you compare the smoke from one cigarette to fireplace emissions, burning one cigarette produces about 0.04 grams of particulate matter. One hour burning wood in an open hearth fireplace produces up to 59 grams of particulate matter or about 1,475 times the particulate pollution of a single cigarette!

In closing, one might argue that private citizens have a right to do what they want in their own homes, and that the City does not have the right to regulate that private behavior. Nobody has a constitutional right to pollute nor to adversely impact the health of others. Governments at all levels routinely regulate and prohibit various other forms of pollution or pollution-causing activities that have a far less severe adverse health impact on the general population than wood burning – i.e. anti-public smoking laws, pollution control requirements for all motorized vehicles, prohibitions against burning of yard wastes and agricultural burn restrictions to name a few.

This rule is simple and effective and will reduce ambient particulate pollution by at least 45% and provide true protection for all our residents, especially those most vulnerable... our seniors, young children and other sensitive groups. Once again, Breathe California of Sacramento urges you to adopt this rule as drafted by the District Staff.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this very important and significant issue, affecting the health of every resident in the District. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Annemarie Vincent
Sr. Policy Manager
SMARQMD-SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

RE: PROPOSED RULE 421

WE IN THE SACRAMENTO AREA FIREWOOD INDUSTRY APPLAUSE THE BOARD'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY IN THIS AREA.

WE, HOWEVER, HAVE SEVERAL CONCERNS ABOUT THE WORDING OF THE RULE AND MOST IMPORTANTLY ABOUT THE MESSAGE THE DRIVE BY "ALARMIST" MEDIA WILL IMMEDIATELY PICK UP UPON WHEN THIS RULE IS ENACTED.

WE CAN ALREADY SEE THE HEADLINES
#1 SACRAMENTO RESTRICTS THE USE OF FIREWOOD IN HOMES!!!!
#2 SACRAMENTO RESTRICTS THE USE OF FIREWOOD IN BARBECUING!

IS IT YOUR INTENT TO STOP THE USE OF FIREWOOD FOR HOME HEATING OR FOR BARBECUES? IN THIS ERA OF SKYROCKETING ENERGY PRICES, WHERE WE SEND INCREASINGLY HUGE SUMS OF MONEY TO FOREIGN UNSTABLE GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES WHO PLAINLY DO NOT LIKE US, TO SATISFY OUR "...ADDICTION TO FOREIGN ENERGY" (GEORGE W BUSH).

IS IT YOUR INTENTION THAT SACRAMENTO CITIZENS FORGO THE USE OF THE OVER 6 MILLION TREES THAT ARE IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY ALONE FOR HOME HEATING OR OUTDOOR BARBECUING!

I GUESS I NEED TO POINT OUT STRONGLY THAT FIREWOOD IS RECOGNIZED BY MANY ECO-SCIENTISTS AS THE ONLY FUEL SOURCE THAT HAS A NET ZERO, NADA, NIL, 0 EFFECT ON THE ACCUMULATION OF GREENHOUSE GASES AND GLOBAL WARMING. AS COMPARED WITH NATURAL GAS, FOR INSTANCE, SOME GAS FIELDS EMIT OVER 40% CARBON DIOXIDE AS A PERCENTAGE OF GAS THAT IS VENTED FROM WELLHEAD OPERATIONS, THIS IS EVEN BEFORE WE GET THE NATURAL GAS AND BURN IT, THUS ADDING TO THE CARBON DIOXIDE LOAD WE ADD TO THE GREENHOUSE GASES OF THIS WORLD.

OF THE 6 MILLION TREES IN SACRAMENTO WE ASK YOU THIS QUESTION, #1. DID YOU EVER SEE A TREE THAT LIVES FOREVER? #2. DID YOU EVER SEE A DEAD TREE THAT DIDN'T EVENTUALLY BURN? #3 IF THIS LIVE OR DEAD TREE IS EVENTUALLY GOING TO BURN, THAN WHY DO YOU WANT THE ENERGY IN THIS TREE NOT TO BE PUT TO WORK FOR SACRAMENTANS?

SUGGESTION. THE WAY THAT YOU CAN PREVENT THE ABOVE MEDIA FRENZY AND ALSO CURTAIL SACRAMENTANS ABILITY TO USE THIS FIREWOOD RESOURCE IN THE FUTURE IS TO PREFACE THIS RULE WITH A "STATEMENT OF INTENT" THE SMARQMD RECOGNIZES THE CONTRIBUTION THAT FIREWOOD MAKES TO THE TOTAL ENERGY PICTURE, TO HOME HEATING, TO THE COOKING OF FOOD, TO THE

000054
LOCAL ECONOMY AND JOBS, TO LIMITING OUR ADDICTION TO FOREIGN ENERGY, AND THE NET ZERO EFFECT IT HAS ON GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. WE AT THE SMAQMD IN NO WAY INTEND THIS RULE #417 AS A CURTAILMENT REAL OR PERCEIVED TO THE USE OF FIREWOOD TO HEAT HOMES OR FOR BARBECUE.

AS TO PART 5 OF THE RULE. I JEFF HADDEN FROM N.P.C. FIREWOOD HAVE DELIVERED TENS OF THOUSANDS OF CORDS OF DRY FIREWOOD TO HOMES OVER THE YEARS AND I HAVE NOTED THAT MANY HOME FIREWOOD USERS PLACE THEIR FIREWOOD IN LOCATIONS IN THEIR YARD, ON THE GROUND, UNDER Drip LINES OF ROOFS OR TREES IN SUCH A WAY THAT MY DRY WOOD GETS VERY MUCH WETTER AS THE WINTER STORMS COME IN AND THAN THE FIREWOOD IS BURNED WET. SINCE I HAVE NEVER DELIVERED UNSEASONED WOOD TO MY CUSTOMERS. I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THIS RULE BE WORDED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE HOMEOWNER IS COMPELLED TO KEEP THE WOOD DRY!

THANK YOU

JEFF HADDEN N.P. FIREWOOD

IN SUMMATION: EVERY MUNICIPALITY IN THE COUNTRY SEEMS TO BE UNDER IMMENSE PRESSURE TO CURTAIL THE USE OF TREES AS FIREWOOD AND COOKING FUEL WHILE AT THE SAME TIME SUPPOSEDLY TAKING ACTION TO CURTAIL CONTRIBUTING TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. THESE EFFORTS ARE DIAMETERICALLY OPPOSITE. AGENCIES SUCH AS YOURS ARE DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING TO SUMMER FOREST FIRES AND THE BAD AIR THAT WE SUFFER FROM IN THE FALL. FURTHER OFTEN THESE FOREST FIRES BURN HUNDREDS OF HOUSES IN AREAS SUCH AS TAHOE, OAKLAND, BERKELEY, ETC. IT IS MY SINCEREST WISH THAT SOME ASPIRING ATTORNEY WILL WIN A HIGH LEVEL LAWSUIT AGAINST AGENCIES SUCH AS YOURS THAT CURTAILS THIS ACTIVITY AND PUTS MANY OF YOU OUT OF A JOB.

Please amend this rule to include that violators construct dry storage for their firewood. In fact, if all customers I believe that 90% of the smoke problem would go away.
Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
Board of Directors
C/O Mr. Jeffery Yang
777 12th Street, 3rd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear SMAQMD Board of Directors:

Thank you for allowing us to provide comments on the proposed adoption of new Rule 421. My wife, a chemist, and myself, a mechanical engineer, both work for the California Air Resources Board (CARB), so we share in the district's commitment toward the goal of clean air for the Sacramento Valley.

A couple of years before the district rebate program for upgrading from the traditional fireplace, after researching many options, we purchased a pellet stove insert. One of the deciding factors in our decision was that a pellet stove uses a biomass fuel. We found a number of studies done that demonstrated that the use of biomass fuels such as wood pellets provided a strong benefit to the environment, through the reduction in emissions associated with production of natural gas, propane and electricity (all of which rely heavily on fossil fuels). We believe that the current Rule 421 language sends the wrong message by lumping a high efficiency biomass technology like wood pellet fuel burning with the low efficiency of traditional fireplace wood burning.

Although our purchase of a pellet stove was prior to the district rebate program, we applaud the program and have encouraged many of our neighbors who still have traditional fireplaces to take advantage of the rebate program to upgrade to higher efficiency supplemental heating.

We have seen significant savings in our natural gas bills over the last two winter seasons. For the winter season 2005-2006, using our pellet stove as our primary heat source while we are home in the evening, we saw a reduction of over 30% off our gas bill from the previous year! For winter season 2006-2007, we saved an additional 13% off our gas bill through the combination of pellet stove usage and minor thermostat adjustments for our gas furnace. Our goal for this winter season is to make the necessary adjustments to maintain the double digit reduction in our natural gas bill.

More importantly, the cleanliness of pellet wood compared to those of our neighbors using traditional wood products was vastly superior. The neighbors in the three houses closest to us each use standard fireplaces. One burned the
wood from cabinets loaded with layers of old paint dating back to the 50's while another used the wood from an old shed!

The staff report concludes that anything short of gas or electric options for fireplaces is excess emissions. Clearly, the Board can see the difference between a biomass technology like a wood pellet fuel stove when compared to a fireplace loaded with wood from home improvement projects.

We respectfully request that the Board implement a mandatory ban on burning for any technologies whose efficiency is below 75% for no burn days. Furthermore, the Board should re-index the rebate program to eliminate the rebates on any technologies below the 75% threshold and to increase the rebates for those that do obtain the 75% efficiency rating.

In addition, we would like to see increased outreach on how we can contact the district to report suspicious burning activities (like the examples I outlined above).

Again, thank you for listening to our thoughts and considering our recommendations.

Respectfully,

Wendy Howard
Paul Marzilli
1722 Mission Avenue
Carmichael, CA 95608
(916) 461-2906
I have questions regarding the new no-burn regulations up for a vote today. If the data is not available to answer particular questions just say so.

1) How much of a change in PM 2.5 air quality is anticipated as a result of this regulation?
2) How will this regulation be enforced: by vehicle, helicopter, or other? Will visual inspection be the only technology employed?
3) What is the expected revenue to be generated from this regulation? Who will benefit from this revenue?
4) How many tons of pollutants will be emitted in the enforcement process each year?
5) What is your estimate of the percentage of the public that will comply with each no burn day? Specifically, what will be the change in compliance rates from a pre-regulation voluntary baseline to post-regulation?
6) What is the budget amount for enforcement personnel?
7) What is the budget amount for equipment purchase and mainentance dedicated to enforcement?
8) What are the specific economic sanctions that would be levied against Sacramento if this regulation was not put in force?

I apologize for asking for so much information, but each of these questions should have been asked and answered prior to passing this regulation, so the request is not unreasonable. Thank you for your attention.

Val R. Smith, Ph.D.
California State University, Sacramento
Folsom resident
Air Quality Board Members,
September 27, 2007

I was unable to come to the meeting during the work day today. I sincerely hope that the Board did not adopt a restrictive burning policy.

I am a resident of Sacramento, whose sole effective source of heat throughout the winter is a woodburning stove. I made this decision because I have a sinus condition that prohibits my using gas heat because it is so drying, and electric heat as you surely know is prohibitively expensive (not to mention ecologically damaging at its source).

My stove is a highly efficient model that exceeds all EPA standards, I researched it before buying and of course spent a good deal of money to be sure it would heat my home. I am sure there are many residents who choose this method not for recreation but for efficient heat.

If the County/city are clearly capable of certifying clean restaurants (I see "Pass" signs in their windows), and if the City traffic department can verify that I have a D sticker on my bumper and my guests have a pass in an exact place on their dashboard, surely it is possible by registration at a central data base or by posting a certificate in my yard or window for whomever it is you intend to enforce this new regulation to honor exemptions for all who can certify that their stove is efficient and non-polluting.

I assume you will post the progress of this issue on your website (now that I've found it) and post any follow up meetings. It is only by being notified by a national association that I found out about today's meeting at all. Such a major restriction on the essential well-being of Sacramento citizens was surely important enough for a mailer to have arrived at my door.  

James C. Anderson  
30 year Sacramento Resident
From: Paul Severson
Subject: Proposal to limit wood burning heating devices

Mr. Larry Green:

I appreciate your agency's efforts to achieve cleaner air, but the proposed restrictions on wood burning heat sources is dreadful. Curtailling outdoor burning of any kind and the use of traditional fireplaces on bad air days is a great idea. Going further to prohibit the use of wood burning stoves, inserts, and pellet stoves is ridiculous. Please implement a policy that is logically defensible and respectful of the needs of local residents.

Sincerely, Paul Severson, pseverson@cn.amador.ca.us
From: Pearson, Dirk [mailto:DirkPearson@firsthealth.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2007 12:12 PM
To: DONNY HOMER
Subject: The Fire Place burning ban

I am a long time Sacramento resident and voter. If the board does vote to ban burning of pellet stoves and other low emission inserts I will make it a point to vote against every incumbent in every local election for the next two years.

Regards,
Dirk Pearson
Citrus Heights

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From: DONNY HOMER  
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2007 10:31 PM  
To: Jeffery Yang; ALETA KENNARD  
Subject: FW: No more burning in fireplace

From: Lauren M. Wheat [mailto:LWheat@cbtcpas.com]  
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2007 4:10 PM  
To: DONNY HOMER  
Subject: No more burning in fireplace

This is ridiculous.......will the Board pay for my PG&E bill? By burning wood I cut down on my utility bills. Then the Board should stop people from smoking and drinking as they offend me and affect my health. Don't tell people what to do on their own property. I thought this was America. I can do as I please in my own home. If the smoke bothers you, stay indoors.

Lauren M. Wheat
Sir,
I want to voice my opposition to this new “rule”.
While I understand the issue of particulates in the air I also understand
That there are so few simple pleasures in life.
Government is increasingly dictating how we live our lives, to the point
That we can hardly make a move without bumping up against some
“rule” or “law” that wants to control our behavior.
I understand seat belt laws and helmet laws and no smoking laws and
On and on and on.
However, I do not want government telling me I can’t have a wood fire
In my house on Thanksgiving or Christmas or whenever I WANT!!!!

Thank you for your time

C. Steven Johnson
8055 Westcamp Rd.
Fair Oaks CA. 95628
From: Jeffery Yang

Subject: FW: no burn days, fines

From: JAMIE ARNO
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 7:51 AM
To: BRIGETTE TOLLSTRUP; ALETA KENNARD; KEVIN J. WILLIAMS
Subject: FW: no burn days, fines

FYI...this came thru the STA Web site. Jamie

From: SMAQMD Community Education [mailto:sparetheair@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 2:44 PM
To: JAMIE ARNO; LORI KOBZA; CHRISTINA RAGSDALE
Subject: Fwd: no burn days, fines

FYI...

angelica w <chriswswife@yahoo.com> wrote:
Date: Wed, 26 Sep 2007 20:52:53 -0700 (PDT)
From: angelica w <chriswswife@yahoo.com>
Subject: no burn days, fines
To: sparetheair@sbcglobal.net

I wanted to voice my concern over the thought of now, because of potential alleged health "risks" from people using their fireplaces, FINING people for trying to reduce electricity usage by simply using a natural heat source. I would like to know, besides speculation, how you can conclusively prove that say, my using a wood burning or pellet stove would cause my neighbor health complications? It is literally none of your business as a government body to tell me not to use my stove on given days. That is NOT the government's job.

Stay out of my house

-Angelica Wilson

Building a website is a piece of cake.
Yahoo! Small Business gives you all the tools to get online.
Jeffery Yang

From: Richard Nardinelli [arri@surewest.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 1:54 PM
To: Jeffery Yang
Subject: Full Exemption

I would like to support a full exemption for my EPA certified wood burning stove. I paid several thousand dollars for it just so it would be friendly to the environment. I do not want the Air Quality Board telling me when I can use it.
Richard Nardinelli
Resident East Sacramento
SMAQMD Board of Directors
Dear Director:

I am distressed by the proposal to ban the use of wood burning on bad air days. I was an avid fireplace fan for years, but two years ago my conscience got the best of me and I installed a used fireplace insert. To the best of my knowledge, it is not EPA approved. Nevertheless, I was astonished at how efficient it is compared to a fireplace. It puts out much more heat while using less wood, and produces little or no smoke coming out of the chimney. I have invested a great deal of time, work, and money cutting and splitting wood, not to mention buying and maintaining my chain saw and insert. New Rule 421, by your estimates, would prohibit me from using my insert for 30 days each winter. This constitutes a reduction of 20-25% of the wood burning season. I feel that this is unfair and unacceptable.

I readily accept the wisdom of banning the use of fireplaces and outdoor burning of any type on bad air days, but ask that you allow the use of wood (and pellet) burning stoves and inserts. These devices are cleaner than their dirtier brethren by an order of magnitude. A policy that fails to note this distinction is a policy failure.

Sincerely,

Paul Severson
pseverson@co.amador.ca.us
7739 Reenel Way
Sacramento, Ca. 95832
(916) 665-1855