



Environmental  
Protection Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor  
Scott J. Nally, Director

August 16, 2010

John Davidson  
12140 Watkins Road  
Marysville, OH 43040

**Re: Site visit on July 27, 2011 to discuss a proposed outdoor wood fired boiler**

Dear Mr. Davidson:

Thank you for the courtesy extended on July 27, 2011 during my visit to your property to observe the fuel pile for your planned outdoor wood burner. This letter serves to reinforce our discussion and provide further clarification regarding operation of the outdoor burner and any associated Ohio EPA obligations.

During the site visit on July 27, 2011, I observed a pile of shredded material that, according to you, will be the fuel used in an outdoor wood fired boiler. In addition, you have provided Ohio EPA with the technical specifications of the proposed outdoor wood boiler.

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-31-03(A)(1)(b) specifies an exemption from air permitting for "wood fuel-fired boilers, preheaters, air heaters, or water heaters less than one million British thermal units per hour. Please be aware of the following:

- 1) If any material other than wood is burned in the boiler, then this exemption will not apply and the unit will need to obtain an air permit prior to operation. Examples of materials that would prevent this exemption from applying to the unit include rubber hoses, carpet, carpet padding, drywall, plastic materials, vinyl siding, asphalt shingles or any other non-wood materials. Without an issued air permit, operation of the unit would be in violation of OAC.3745-31-03(A) and be subject to fines and penalties.
- 2) If a wood fuel-fired unit above one million British thermal units input per hour is installed and operated, then the exemption from permitting will not apply. As such, the unit will need to obtain an air permit prior to operation.

Should you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to call me at (614) 728-3808.

Sincerely,

David Burroughs  
Environmental Specialist  
Division of Air Pollution Control  
Central District Office

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