

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIN

COUNTY OF MARIN

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 3501 CIVIC CENTER DR. SUITE 329 SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA 94903-4193 TELEPHONE (415) 499-7331 FAX (415) 499-3645 TTY (415) 499-6172

June 24, 2008

TO:

Charles McGlashan, President

Susan Adams Judy Arnold

FROM.

Steve Kinsey

Hal Brown

SUBJECT:

Letter endorsing the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Proposed Regulation 6,

Rule 3: Woodburning Devices

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize Board President to sign letter

Dear Colleagues,

As you are aware, smoke from wood burning heaters and stoves is a significant source of pollution and particulate matter in Marin County. Of the Bay Area counties, Marin County has the second highest level of particulate emissions from wood stoves. We have begun to address this problem via an ordinance which was enacted in October, 2003 requiring conversion of non-compliant wood burning stoves to EPA certified stoves. Our board also acted in April of this year to renew funding for a rebate program to assist property owners with those conversions.

On July 9, 2008 the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) will consider a new regulation which is consistent with Marin County's ordinance and does not negate it in any way. The key component that will affect some Marin residents is a ban on burning on "Spare the Air" days. Residents who do not have alternative heating sources such as natural gas are exempt from this requirement. Other aspects of the regulation which are generally consistent with Marin's ordinance specify details regarding emission standards, sale and installation of compliant wood burning devices, and burning practices. The BAAQMD is also considering renewing its successful rebate programs. We suggest that our letter urge the District to do this, and to make rebates available to people who convert to either gas or EPA compliant stoves, consistent with our own rebate program.

Our board has recognized the local problems with wood burning smoke, as well as the fact that smoke from Marin blows east, contributing to smog and health problems in the Bay Area and Central Valley. We urge our board to authorize President McGlashan to sign the attached letter. If the BAAQMD, counties and cities all act together we can substantially reduce air pollution in the region.

Sincerely

Steve Kinsev

SAN RAFAEL

IST DISTRICT

Supervisor, District Four

Hal Brown

Supervisor, District Two

5TH DISTRICT