Coastal Farm & Home Supply, LLC is a hearth retailer located in the Pacific Northwest. I have 17 retail locations in Oregon and Washington. Coastal is and has been locally owned and operated for over 55 years. We are a leader in the hearth industry, selling over 3,200 hearth appliances annually. Over 2/3rds of our sales are wood and pellet appliances. This is our specialty.

Historically we have stocked, on average 1700 units (corresponding to 56 different models from 4 brands, all our brands we sell are from one manufacturer). We pre-book orders to get the best saving from our supplier, generally more than 6 months ahead of time. This is not going to be the case this year as I cannot buy any product that is not 2020 compliant because I know that we will not be able to display or sell 2015-compliant products after May 15th, 2020. It normally takes us 2-3 selling seasons to sell left over products. I have already begun scaling way back on orders placed for the 2019-2020 selling season. Currently, of the 56 models offered only 14 different models are Step 2, 2020 Compliant (with more planned to get through testing in 2019 and early 2020). This greatly reduces the choices we can offer to the consumer. Our showrooms are dominated by wood and pellet appliances and without the additional sell-through period we will not be able to present ourselves as they leader we have worked so hard to become.

If the EPA extends the sell-by deadline until May 15th, 2022, I would stock a more normal volume of step 1 products, allowing us, the retailer little to no risk of getting stuck with inventory we cannot sell or display. The extension would also
allow more choices for the consumer, more normalized sales volume for us as the retailer, while still meet the 2020 compliance performance standards for the EPA. We need this 2-year sell through on this rule.

In conclusion, I Buzz Wheeler, owner/operator of Coastal Farm & Home Supply, LLC, appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments to the EPA. Coastal strongly supports the proposal to provide a 2-year sell through period for pellet and wood burning appliances that meet the 2015 step 1 standards, but not the 2020, step 2 standards.

Buzz Wheeler
Owner