

Episode 57DFF March 13 2025 10 points about indoor residential wood burning and a DOGE error tracker

In Episode 57DFF 1 In selected countries of the World indoor residential wood burning air pollution and the cost to human health is counted 2 United States DOGE errors calculated by a tracker Main Content

1 World Everybody pays for wood burning in direct medical costs to begin with The perceived lower cost of heating with wood is often cited as a reason to tolerate its use However when we look at the whole picture it is clear that the price of wood heating is quite high Any scheme that replaces wood heaters with less polluting forms of heating will pay for itself within a year and provide ongoing savings from the avoided additional disease and death associated with woodsmoke RAWSEP has broken down the vital statistical information found on this DSAWSP webpage below into ten points 1 Canada 2 The European Union and the United Kingdom 3 Australia 4 New Zealand 5 California in the United States 6 Denmark 7 Greece 8 Hyper localization matters and near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners are impacted in ways that can be proven by use of resident owned PurpleAir PM2.5 Monitors hanging from the eaves of the houses of near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners RAWSEP interjection that the readings from these PurpleAir PM2.5 monitors showing PM2.5 levels above the World Health Organization W H O safe PM2.5 limits of 5 micrograms per cubic meter should be used as evidence of wood burning air pollution and this evidence should be used to shut down each indoor residential wood burner one wood burning appliance at a time if necessary 9 Financial burdens are placed on near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners 10 Rural and low income near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners are impacted in their pocketbooks and in harm to their health Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke

Emission Particulates a 501c3 nonprofit organization Doctors and Scientists Against Wood Smoke Pollution DSAWSP March 12 2025 Everyone Pays The real cost of wood burning An assortment of banknotes of different currencies burning with visible flames and smoke The perceived lower cost of heating with wood is often cited as a reason to tolerate its use However when we look at the whole picture it is clear that the price of wood heating is quite high Air pollution is expensive When air pollution levels rise even by a small amount health related costs go up For example US researchers have estimated that a nationwide reduction of only 1 microgram per cubic meter in PM2.5 would reduce costs related to asthma by nearly \$350 million annually A 2013 review in the Lancet estimated that a mean reduction in PM2.5 of 39 micrograms per cubic meter in the United States would prevent 7978 heart failure hospitalizations and save a third of a billion dollars a year Public health policy should aim to reduce exposure to risk factors such as open fires in the home Any scheme that replaces wood heaters with less polluting forms of heating will pay for itself within a year and provide ongoing savings from the avoided additional disease and death associated with woodsmoke Wood smoke pollution can cause a catastrophic downward spiral for the health of patients and financial wellbeing leading to greater costs for the whole community When people cannot breathe they cannot go to work or to school Students fall behind academically potentially affecting their future earning ability Workers without paid sick leave lose wages while being faced with growing medical expenses Examples from countries around the world

1 In Canada restriction of wood burning appliances could produce four hundred thirty eight million Canadian dollars in health related savings In Canada as a whole in 2023 illnesses and premature deaths due to residential wood burning cost the country eighteen billion Canadian dollars annually which is far more than from any other pollution sector that was analyzed 2 In the European Union and the United Kingdom burning wood has high health costs relative to the energy it generates Health impacts of wood burning in 2022 cost the E U and the U K thirteen billion euros a year In the European Union and the United Kingdom wood burning appliances are a major source of air pollution increasing health related costs by thirteen billion Euros each year Burning wood has high health costs relative to the energy it generates Residents of rural and low income

communities are more likely to be affected by adverse public health outcomes associated with exposure to wood smoke **3** In Australia a study of the New South Wales town of Armidale that was published in 2007 concluded that 38% of respiratory related visits to primary care doctors were directly attributable to wood smoke related pollution adding an extra One thousand six hundred and sixty six Australian dollars daily in medical costs There is a need in rural towns to consider the health impacts of planning decisions related to wood heating Another 2007 study suggested that wood stoves increase annual mortality in Armidale by approximately seven percent with an estimated hidden cost of about four thousand two hundred and seventy Australian dollars per wood stove each year A 2021 study found that wood heating increased medical costs in the town of Armidale by an average of thirty two point eight million Australian dollars or ten thousand nine hundred thirty Australian dollars per wood burning stove A 2023 New South Wales N S W Australia government report estimated that wood stoves contribute to 269 premature deaths each year in the greater Sydney metropolitan region and add two billion Australian dollars extra annually in costs to the Sydney area health system In Tasmania Australia each wood stove raises health costs by an average of four thousand two hundred thirty two Australian dollars annually Altogether wood stoves are estimated to add two hundred ninety three Australian dollars each year in extra health costs in Tasmania **4** A 2001 New Zealand study found that wood smoke pollution cost the city of Christchurch alone an added one hundred and twenty seven million New Zealand dollars in increased health related costs annually Any scheme that replaces wood heaters with less polluting forms of heating will pay for itself within a year and provide ongoing savings from the avoided additional disease and death associated with wood smoke **5** In California A study from 2001 to 2003 by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District in California estimated that excess illnesses caused by residential wood burning resulted in an added \$11 million to twenty six point six million dollars annually in medical expenses in the Fresno Clovis area and an added five point seven million dollar to fourteen point one million dollars in the city of Bakersfield The lower figures reflect restrictions on burning that were implemented during the course of the study Added expenses from premature deaths caused by residential wood burning were estimated to cost up to four hundred thirty point six million dollars when there were no limits on wood burning in Fresno Clovis and up to two hundred thirty nine point nine million dollars in the city of Bakersfield An overview of US impacts and regulations can be found on this website **6** In Denmark there are huge air pollution related costs In Denmark wood stoves cost five point seven billion kroner annually which is approximately eight hundred forty million United States dollars in annual air pollution related costs Denmark proposed that a tax on wood stoves based upon the amount they are used could save 300 lives a year Pollution from wood burning is the most health damaging and expensive environmental problem in Denmark **7** In Greece in the city of Thessaloniki use of wood heating rose dramatically during the economic crisis in Greece causing a large spike in wood associated particulate air pollution The switch to wood heating from fuel oil resulted in 200 excess deaths or 3540 years of life lost corresponding to an economic cost of almost Two hundred to two hundred fifty million Euros The majority of increased illnesses during the winter of increased wood burning were cases of chronic bronchitis along with additional new cases of cardiovascular disease and other respiratory problems at a monetary cost of thirty million Euros An analysis of the data suggested significant public health and monetary benefits of up to two billion Euros in avoided mortality and one hundred thirty million Euros in avoided illness might be obtained by limiting the burning of wood and other biomass Providing incentives so that people can transition to cleaner heating options and away from wood was strongly advised in order to avoid more excess deaths and avoidable illnesses **8** **Hyper localization matters and near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners are impacted in ways that can be proven by use of resident owned PurpleAir PM2.5 Monitors hanging from the eaves of the houses of near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners RAWSEP interjection that the readings from these PurpleAir PM2.5 monitors**

showing PM2.5 levels above the World Health Organization W H O safe PM2.5 limits of 5 micrograms per cubic meter should be used as evidence of wood burning air pollution and this evidence should be used to shut down each indoor residential wood burner one wood burning appliance at a time if necessary Wood burners as well as the general public must understand that these localized spikes in wood smoke inhalation create an unjustifiable concentration of risk **9 Financial burdens are placed on near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners** Near neighbors of wood burning households often spend large sums of money trying to protect the health of their families and cope with the smoke Common costs not only include extra medications and medical bills but also HEPA air purifiers air pollution monitors such as resident owned PurpleAir PM2.5 monitors hanging from the eaves of homes of near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners and house modifications in an attempt to limit how much smoke gets in Ultimately some families are driven from their homes and also have moving expenses **10 Rural and low income near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners are impacted in their pocketbooks and in harm to their health** Added burdens can fall on neighbors who cannot afford them It has been pointed out that residents of rural and low income communities are more likely to suffer from the health effects of wood smoke pollution due to their greater exposure Wood burning is not a bargain When all the costs are considered wood burning clearly is no bargain

2 United States The Musk Watch DOGE Tracker is a New Tool that reveals Musk has overstated verified DOGE Savings by at least 92 percent **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501c3 nonprofit organization** Popular Information March 12 2025 Introducing The Musk Watch DOGE Tracker New tool reveals Musk has overstated verified DOGE savings by at least 92% March 12 2025 Elon Musk claims that DOGE has saved taxpayers \$100 billion This week Musk claimed he was saving \$4 billion per day and was on track to cut \$1 trillion from the federal budget Documents reveal DOGE has grossly overstated the potential savings to taxpayers The Musk Watch DOGE Tracker will be updated weekly The Musk Watch DOGE Tracker breaks down the purported savings into three categories 1 DOGE Claimed Total Savings \$105 billion 2 DOGE Itemized Savings twenty nine point nine billion dollars But Musk Watch has determined the actual potential savings Here is how it works For each contract there are three key figures the Obligated Amount the Current Award Amount and the Potential Award Amount The Obligated Amount is the amount the agency has obligated itself to spend DOGE calculates the savings by taking the Potential Award Amount and subtracting the Obligated Amount The Potential Award Amount is the value of the contract if all options renewals extensions and expansions of the contract are exercised The Current Award Amount is a better way of determining what the government has committed to a contract By using Potential Award Amount instead DOGE is taking credit for saving money that the government was not required to spend and might never have been spent under any administration Musk Watch calculates the savings by taking the Current Award Amount and subtracting the Obligated Amount This results in a significantly lower estimation of savings Here is an example of an EPA contract with Endyna Inc that was canceled by DOGE In the DOGE calculation DOGE takes the Potential Award Amount of \$134 million and subtracts the Obligated Amount of sixty four point seven million dollars and calculates a total savings of sixty nine point three million dollars Musk Watch substitutes the Current Award Amount the actual value of the contract and finds a more realistic savings of five point four million dollars This more accurate methodology reduces the total savings from the 4083 contracts canceled by DOGE from fourteen point nine billion dollars to eight point one billion dollars All savings claimed by DOGE for canceled contracts may be illusory because the EPA is still required to spend the money appropriated by Congress for the same statutorily authorized purpose Absent action by Congress rescinding the funds refusing to spend the money constitutes impoundment by the executive which is illegal To repeat impoundment is illegal