Concerned Consumer Template Letter to Retailers–

(Company Name

Address)

I recently (purchased or used) a (camp stove, lantern, patio heater, scooter etc.) and/or a couple of 1-lb propane cylinders (to use with it). I was troubled to learn that every 1-lb propane "disposable" cylinder is generating 1 pound of steel that has to be handled as hazardous waste. With over four million disposable 1-lb cylinders used in California each year that is four million pounds of steel that should be recycled but because of the high costs of recycling the cylinders only a fraction of the cylinders are recycled.

In California you cannot throw these cylinders in the trash. You are required to take them to a household hazardous waste (HHW) facility for proper disposal. My local municipal waste program (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) wants me to personally deliver the empty propane cylinders to their HHW collection site, by appointment (if appointment is needed-check with your local household hazardous waste program.) **How many people who buy this product are going to go to that trouble?** Most likely they will up end being placed in the recycling or trash bins which means sanitation workers will be exposed to the dangers of these devices when they are handled at transfer stations.

**We need to make it easier to do the right thing and we need your help!** Here are some ideas:

* How about an exchange program at each (company) store for these empty 1-lb cylinders just like exchange programs for larger propane tanks?
* (Company) could participate in the ReFuel Your Fun campaign as a retailer that sells or provides refill/exchange services for the new 1-lb refillable propane cylinders. Information can be found at [*refuelyourfun.org*](http://refuelyourfun.org).
* People need the ability to purchase and use the new refillable 1-lb propane cylinders and they also need to know where to dispose of empty cylinders. (Company) could provide information in each store telling us where to safely recycle and dispose of cylinders.

I was excited to learn that the Refuel Your Fun option could help me and the environment and I can save $60 after 25 uses plus enjoy continued savings over 100 times. Disposables are costly and dangerous to local governments and parks and wasteful because they can only be used once, and I am sure there must be huge greenhouse gas benefits if refillables are used due to the metal and embodied energy in a single cylinder.

Please let me know what (company) will do to remedy this problem.

Sincerely,