

From: Zen Studies Society office@daibosatsu.org
Subject: An Urgent Message From Shinge Roshi
Date: March 7, 2015 at 1:25 PM
To:

THE ZEN
STUDIES
SOCIETY



March 9, 2015

Dear Sangha and Dharma Friends,

I know how much Dai Bosatsu Zendo means to you and to the generations of practitioners who have been transformed by the beauty of this place and the gifts of the practice here. I am writing to you now with urgency.

Last week, one of our two 35-year-old wood-burning boilers dramatically and abruptly ceased functioning. The other is not dependable. Daytime temperatures on the mountain hover around -5 degrees even in early March; despite how carefully we have tried to baby these old boilers, parts are failing, and quick action must be taken. We knew this time would come, but we had hoped to get through another season.

During the past year, our Sustainable Energy Committee, guided by professional energy consultants, reviewed a wide array of options to determine the best environmentally sound, sustainable boiler to meet our needs far into the future. We decided on a wood-chip biomass boiler manufactured in New York State. With the quote in hand (\$163,000), we obtained leadership gifts from long-time Dharma friends for half that amount, and had planned to continue using the current antiquated boilers through this spring. We knew we would need to raise \$150,000 more to cover the remaining cost of the boiler, rebuilding the main chimney, necessary insulation of the building, re-engineering the boiler room area, and retrofitting our wood shed for storing wood chips. We had hoped we could accomplish the fundraising over the course of the summer.

However, with this breakdown, we must raise the additional funds now, so that the new system can be installed as soon as possible. The manufacturer has offered to discount the price by \$10,000 if the equipment is ordered by March 21.

I humbly ask you, as a supporter of our beloved Dai Bosatsu Zendo, to contribute to this necessary endeavor.

With profound gratitude for your kindness, generosity, and concern,

Gassho,

Shinge