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Comment Received From: Armando Flores
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18-IEPR-09 - Achieving Zero Emission Buildings

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



June 26, 2018

California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-29
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: 18-IEPR-09 - Achieving Zero Emission Buildings

Dear Commissioners,

We are writing on behalf of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA), representing more than 400 businesses in the San Fernando Valley and throughout Los Angeles County. VICA has strong concerns about the commission's recent workshop on achieving zero emission buildings.

Creating a framework that would essentially push Californians to use electricity for all end-uses would have a significant economic impact on middle- and working-class families throughout the state.

Mandating the electrification of all buildings in the state would eliminate affordable energy options currently available to consumers. Californians would be required to pay high costs for energy supply and appliances used in their homes and businesses.

The state has already adopted a cap-and-trade program that limits total emissions from large emitters. These standards have helped reduce greenhouse gas emissions and significantly improved our state's air quality. According to a 2017 report by the California Air Resources Board, California is on track to achieve its reduction goals while boosting the economy in the process.

Mandating 100 percent electrification could increase annual home utility bills by almost \$900 compared to mixed-fuel homes. Removing energy choice would signal that California is not open for business and will force business owners to consider at options and locations that make more financial sense.

In order to keep California at the forefront of the battle against climate change, we need to preserve choice while implementing responsible policies that don't increase the cost of living and doing business in California.

We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gritzner
VICA Chair

Stuart Waldman
VICA President