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2018 IEPR Update

I commend the California Energy Commission on its Final 2018 Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) Update.

About three years ago, my wife and I considered installing solar roof panels on our 1970 home. We requested quotes from two companies. Neither came close to being financially sensible. Times have changed. Having made energy efficiency improvements as the price of solar dropped, in December 2018 we had a small (10 panel) rooftop array installed. It will exceed our current electricity use over the course of the year, meaning we have headroom to charge an electric car or power a new heat pump. And the payback is attractive. Our 1970 home, typical of Pleasanton and not built with energy efficiency in mind, is close to being net zero. It can be done!

So, I am happy to see the strong focus on the electrification of buildings, and agree that electrification is the most viable path to zero-emission buildings. In addition, with recent tragedies like the fire which devastated Paradise, it would be highly irresponsible not to be phasing out propane tanks and gas lines.

I urge the Commission to pursue the electrification goals in the IEPR in a manner that expediently accelerates the electrification market while prioritizing California's most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. The phasing out of gas powered landscaping equipment also needs to be expedited, as these machines are a major contributor to smog and a significant health hazard to their operators, especially for landscaping professionals.

Sincerely,
Dr. Bruce Daggy