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## **Swimming Pool & Spa Industry Needs Natural Gas Need Natural Gas**

I am submitting comments on behalf of the California Pool & Spa Association relative to the issue of decarbonization. CPSA is a state wide trade association representing swimming pool and spa builders, service and maintenance businesses and pool equipment manufacturers. Our members are very concerned about restricting the use and availability on natural gas in residential buildings. Our members build facilities for families to spend time together and enjoy their backyards. This include swimming pools and spas, outdoor kitchens, fireplaces and fire pits, space heaters, barbeques and outdoor stoves, and pizza ovens. Virtually all of these products and facilities utilize natural gas as the principle source of energy. Alternative energy sources include propane, wood and charcoal. Solar heating is fine for swimming pools in some locations, but solar does not work well to heat a spa at night or a pool in cold climate. Our clients have no requests from homeowners who desire to sit around an electric fireplace or fire pit in their backyards or barbeque on an electric stove or grill.

A backyard with a pool still tops the list of dreams for California residents. Gas or carbon free houses are not consistent with the desire of California residents to utilize their backyards in a manner that provides enjoyment and a time to bring their families together. The California pool and spa industry has a \$5 billion dollar impact on the state's economy annually, this does not include the remodeling sector. The industry provides local well paying construction, management and sales jobs. Building materials are produced and sourced locally and our member contribute to the tax base and increased property values. There are no real alternatives to natural gas for facilities built by the swimming pool and spa industry, both from an efficiency standpoint and that would garner public support to maintain this very important residential market. Thank you.