

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	19-IEPR-06
Project Title:	Energy Efficiency and Building Decarbonization
TN #:	229897
Document Title:	Rock Zierman, California Independent Petroleum Association Comments - on Energy Efficiency and Building Decarbonization
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Rock Zierman, California Independent Petroleum Association
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	10/1/2019 2:30:39 PM
Docketed Date:	10/1/2019

*Comment Received From: Rock Zierman, California Independent Petroleum Association
Submitted On: 10/1/2019
Docket Number: 19-IEPR-06*

**CIPA Comment on 19-IEPR-06 Energy Efficiency and Building
Decarbonization**

Attached is a letter from California Independent Petroleum Association Chief Executive Officer Rock Zierman regarding 19-IEPR-06 Energy Efficiency and Building Decarbonization. For further questions, please contact Sabrina Lockhart at sabrina@cipa.org or 916-447-1177

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



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California Independent Petroleum Association Comments to the California Energy Commission Regarding Joint Agency Staff Workshop on Building Decarbonization

October 1, 2019

Submitted via weblink:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=19-IEPR-06>

Dear members of the California Energy Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your workshop regarding building decarbonization (July 30, 2019).

Our member companies represent both large and small business employers with long standing operations in California and generate approximately 70% of our state's total oil production and 90% of California's natural gas production. The men and women who produce oil and natural gas in California live in the same communities they work in and uniquely understand the importance of responsible resource management.

We embrace innovation and our member companies of all sizes have invested in new technologies to lower carbon intensity. Our industry is actively engaged in meeting the state's climate goals. We are proactively changing our operations to be a part of the solution, but too often state policies single us out as though we are the only problem.

Natural gas has helped the U.S. become a global leader in reducing carbon emissions and provides clean, reliable, and affordable energy.ⁱ The average household that uses natural gas saves nearly \$900 a year in energy costs.ⁱⁱ

Restricting consumer choice and affordability by prohibiting natural gas powered appliances will not immediately reduce the need for natural gas. Almost half of the natural gas used in the state is for electricity generation and is critically needed when renewable energy is unavailable such as when the sun doesn't shine or the wind doesn't blow.ⁱⁱⁱ

Prohibiting natural gas in buildings will hurt Californians who live in warmer inland climates the most because families there already pay almost 60 percent more for their energy bills in the summer than temperate coastal communities.^{iv}

In order to meet the vast needs of our nation-state, we need a diverse “all of the above” energy portfolio that includes new and traditional sources working side by side to deliver the affordable and reliable energy that all Californians rely upon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rock Zierman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rock Zierman
Chief Executive Officer
California Independent Petroleum Association

ⁱ <https://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/carbon/?src=email>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.aga.org/natural-gas/affordable/>

ⁱⁱⁱ https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/almanac/naturalgas_data/overview.html

^{iv} www.pacificresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/LegislatngEnergy_F_Web.pdf