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Creative Energy Opposed to 2022 Energy Code That Ignores Fuel

On Behalf of a 45 year fireplace company,

I'm writing to you today about concerns I have about the 2022 energy code. I have a small business that sells and installs gas hearth products, many of which are designed and used as heaters.

For many of my customers, electricity is a huge expense. Forcing people to live in homes that are all electric doesn't recognize the limitations of energy storage options, or lack thereof.

California in general, and new homes in particular, doesn't have any good way to store electricity after the sun goes down on a cold winter evening. When residents hear the Governor call for an end to new non-electric cars in just a few years, and they know that, while they are in their home, they'll probably be charging their car, they know that means more electricity use. To offset that increased use and costs, they'll need energy alternatives, such as gas, to heat their homes affordably.

All-electric homes mean higher demand on a single energy source, not just in summer with rolling blackouts, but also in winter with high heating product demands and weather outages.

By keeping natural gas as a choice for residential buildings, it allows us options going forward with renewable natural gas and low, zero, and even negative carbon energy sources.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,
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