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New Construction Electrification - {BLEEP} Yeah! (feb 10 meeting, agenda item 14)

Hello, I recently began volunteering with 350 Silicon Valley, which is how I learned about this meeting. However, I am writing not as a representative of the organization, but as an enthusiastic owner of a inductive cooktop/convection oven, an electric appliance.

When we moved into our house nearly 16 years ago, it featured a beautiful old Wedgewood stove. I was always told that gas cooking was the way to go. Electric stoves were those old coil things, right? You couldn't do REAL cooking on them. The stove may not have been the main thing that drew me to this place, but it didn't hurt. Except, of course, over time, it was obvious that it DID hurt. It was one of those old units that always had a flame burning for the pilot light, so it was always consuming fuel. It also, I suspect, was leaky. And as time went on, I become increasingly concerned about the fact that we live in earthquake country. What if a large temblor caused the Wedgewood to shift position and cause a dangerous gas leak or even an explosion?Â Â

So finally we "pulled the plug". We began researching electric options. I finally found a unit that met our requirements. What it lacked in charm, it more than made up for in efficiency. I love cooking on it now. Water boils so fast! Items cooked in the oven cook evenly, something that was never the case before! And when I turn off the stove, it cools down very quickly. It's also MUCH easier to clean. Also, maybe it's just a coincidence, but I stopped waking up with headaches that I had previously blamed on poorly positioned pillows or lack of coffee.Â
We still have more work to do to wean ourselves off natural gas. Our furnace depends on the stuff; so does our dryer. But as those systems need replacing, I know we will go electric with each one.Â

Long story short: I know that going electric doesn't mean settling for second best; it's by far the best option. Electricity can be generated in a variety of ways (hopefully greener and greener ones as time goes on). We didn't start with a blank slate, but that's exactly the opportunity here. I hope the Commission will support requiring new buildings to be all electric. Thank you for your time.