

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	22-DECARB-02
Project Title:	Building Decarbonization and Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment Web Guide
TN #:	246510
Document Title:	Build It Green's Comment Letter on SB68
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Build It Green
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	10/12/2022 2:11:45 PM
Docketed Date:	10/12/2022

*Comment Received From: Build It Green
Submitted On: 10/12/2022
Docket Number: 22-DECARB-02*

Build It Green's Comment Letter on SB68

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Dear California Energy Commission,

For the Building Decarbonization and Electrical Vehicle Charging Equipment Website the CEC designs, Build It Green recommends including information and resources for how to equitably decarbonize, such that low-income, disadvantaged, or other important communities are able to access resources, information and support that keep their needs at the fore. The process of decarbonization can have an outsized negative impact on different communities, such as renters and those in high heat risk or air pollution areas, if not done with equitable outcomes considered at the forefront. In order to ensure a just transition to a decarbonized future, we strongly recommend having a section of the website to share frameworks, resources, tools, any upcoming case studies or anything else that would help our statewide decarbonization efforts benefit these communities and fully participate in a clean and healthy future in the structures where we all live and work.

There are many different organizations, community leaders, and jurisdictional staff working on equitable decarbonization. Below are several resources to have as a starting point for this section:

- Publications
 - [Los Angeles Building Decarbonization: Tenant Impact and Recommendations](#)
 - by [Strategic Actions for a Just Economy](#)
 - [2 page summary](#)
 - [Full report](#)
 - This report shows how decarbonization could end up saddling tenants with higher rent burden, cause a spike in prices across Los Angeles' rent-stabilized housing stock, and lead to displacement of our most vulnerable tenants. The findings emphasize the importance of an equitable approach to building decarbonization that centers tenants and prioritizes housing and energy justice principles.
 - [Equitable Building Electrification - A Framework for Powering Resilient Communities](#)
 - by [The Greenlining Institute](#)
 - This report presents the five-step Equitable Building Electrification Framework for how the current goals of building electrification can be aligned with producing healthy homes, creating high quality, local jobs that cannot be outsourced, and establishing stronger connections between everyday Californians and our climate change policies and goals.
 - [Prioritizing California's Affordable Housing in the Transition Towards Equitable Building Decarbonization | Summit Report 2021](#)
 - Comprehensive summary on the challenges and recommendations in "equitably electrifying California's affordable rent-restricted multifamily housing" from a five-part summit hosted by [California Housing Partnership](#) with support from [the Greenlining Institute](#).

- [Accelerating Electrification of California's Multifamily Buildings](#)
 - by [StopWaste](#)
 - A two part report providing high-level policy recommendations and a deep-dive technical reference for hands-on implementation of electrification at existing multifamily buildings.
- [Existing Building Electrification and Multifamily Electric Vehicle Charging - Policy and Financing Literature Review and Analysis](#)
 - by [TRC](#)
 - This study shares the compilation of research on relevant state and local building codes and financing approaches for existing building electrification and multifamily EV charging infrastructure retrofit. TRC has preliminarily identified gaps and developed recommendations for future programs.
- [Los Angeles Affordable Housing Decarbonization Study Phase 2](#)
 - by [ARUP](#)
 - This study provides research and analysis into the state of affordable housing in Los Angeles, challenges of electrification, and recommendations to design effective policy and programs that centers decarbonization efforts around housing affordability and preservation.
- [Building Performance Standard Module: Housing Affordability Policy Brief](#)
 - by [Institute for Market Transformation](#) and [Elevate](#)
 - This is an introductory brief for jurisdictions working on building performance standards (BPS) to develop strategies, policies, and programs that would go beyond regulating energy performance and greenhouse gases, but address housing affordability and prevent displacement.
- This blog post summarizes our current research in this space:
<https://www.builditgreen.org/blog/reporting-out-renter-protections-in-equitable-building-decarbonization/>
- Tools & Resources
 - [Housing Needs Assessment](#)
 - Provides detailed reports with maps and visualizations for every US Census jurisdiction to describe local demographics and measures of housing affordability, housing stock characteristics, and variations in key housing indicators by race, ethnicity, age and income.
 - [Resources on Building Electrification](#)
 - Building Electrification Institute provides a landing page to share the context of building electrification and housing affordability, the importance of building electrification, equitable approaches to building performance standards, and overview of building electrification technologies, barriers, and opportunities.
- Jurisdictional Policies
 - Alameda's [Draft Equitable Building Electrification Plan](#)

- *Includes an equity statement in its principles:* Electrification policy should also support housing and anti-displacement policy.
- San Jose's [Existing Building Electrification Framework](#)
 - *Includes a focus area that states:* There is a critical need to ensure building electrification efforts do not contribute further to displacement or increased costs for low- and moderate-income families.
- San Francisco's [Climate Action Plan](#)
 - *Calls upon the city to* “develop and adopt tenant protection and anti-displacement policies for renters in buildings transitioning to efficient and all-electric systems” by 2023.
 - San Francisco is also developing a new Climate Equity Hub that will support homeowners, renters, and workers through the transition to all-electric buildings.

The above shared resources are not an exhaustive list, but a starting point. A wide variety of stakeholders are continuously working across various locales to ensure building decarbonization, especially for existing buildings, is rolled out with equity integrated as a key component.

For spotlighting the thoughtful and impactful work on equity for the decarbonization website, the following individuals and/or organizations are also voicing their support:

- Climate Reality Los Angeles Chapter

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the following contacts:

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