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All-electric is cheaper, safer, cleaner and legally mandated--please stop delaying electrification

SoCalGas would like us to ignore the children near Aliso Canyon that bled from their noses and vomited on their bedroom floors before they evacuated. PG&E would like us to forget the deaths of two CPUC employees in the San Bruno gas pipeline explosion. Every utility in the American Gas Association would like to us overlook LBNLâ \in TMs 2011 study showing how gas stoves cause asthma and cancer in children under five, and are the source of the highest levels of formaldehyde found in a house. SoCalGas likes to waive around a bogus â \in œsurveyâ \in that would have us believe that Californianâ \in TMs love gas stoves beyond all measure, while Thomas Keller of the French Laundry, like chefs worldwide, prefers induction stoves for their control, speed and safety.

SoCalGas would like us to not read their submittal to the CPUC San Joaquin proceedings that show gas mains cost \$36,000 per residence, ten times more than electrifying a house. With a \$36,000/house budget every existing home could be electrified with brand new appliances and also given a ZNE-scale solar array. SoCalGas would like us to not know that savvy developers in Texas build about 65,000 all-electric new homes a year (half the total of 130,000 homes/year), while developers in California waste their money on 80,000 new homes a year that still burn gas.

It is truly a waste of limited time, our precious health and tax payer wealth to continue one more day of burning natural gas. It deeply disappoints me that California has listened to SoCalGas's arguments, now that the CPUC's lawyers within the Office of Ratepayer Advocates has revealed them to be purposeful lies and illegal uses of ratepayer efficiency funds--California has barely made progress in reducing total emissions from gas, even as we decarbonize our electricity ahead of schedule. Californians are .005% of the globeâ€TMs population, but we produce 2% of global greenhouse gases, 400 times our fair share.

Our wildly disproportionate pollution contribution is already causing a crisis for our fellow Californians with wildfires, floods, heat waves and droughts. We must stop these self-inflicted wounds, and ignore financially self-interested corporate talking points, and focus on facts.

Gas pipelines are bombs beneath our streets and climate disasters when they leak, while allelectric construction is cheaper to build, safer for children, cheaper to operate with efficient products, produces less pollution in non-attainment basins, and is the most important tool we have for decarbonizing society. It is time for the climate change deniers to take a seat, and time for the CEC to acknowledge that natural gas is not a bridge fuel--when leaked above 2% it is worse for climate change than coal, and all studies show leakage in excess of 3%. Science must prevail in this argument, and we must stop using natural gas with all due haste.

Sincerely,

Sean Armstrong Redwood Energy