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Comment Received From: Lois Henry
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Achieving Zero Emissions Buildings Docket No. 18-IEPR-09

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



Strengthening the Voice of Business

**BizFed Central Valley
Member Alliance**

African American Farmers of
California

Associated Builders and
Contractors – Cen Cal

Associated Builders and
Contractors – Nor Cal

Building Industry
Association, Tulare-Kings

California Association of
Food Banks

California Association of
Mutual Water Companies

California Business
Roundtable

California Independent
Petroleum Association

Downtown Visalians

Employers Group

Fresno County Farm Bureau

Fresno Metro Black Chamber

Greater Bakersfield Chamber
of Commerce

Hong Kong Trade
Development Council

Independent Oil Producers
Agency

Kern Citizens for Energy

Kern Hispanic Chamber of
Commerce

Kern Home Builders
Association

Manufacturer's Council of the
Central Valley

National Association of
Royalty Owners - CA Chapter

Nisei Farmers League

Pacific Merchants Shipping
Association

San Joaquin Valley
Manufacturing Alliance

Tulare County Association of
REALTORS

Visalia Economic
Development Corporation

Water Association of Kern
County

Western State Petroleum
Association

6/29/18

Dr. Robert B. Weisenmiller
Chair, California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Achieving Zero Emission Buildings, Docket No. 18-
IEPR-09 BizFed Central Valley Comments**

Dear Dr. Weisenmiller,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the workshop titled "Achieving Zero Emission Buildings" as part of the Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) Update.

We are writing on behalf of BizFed Central Valley, a diverse federation of businesses and top business associations representing 20,000 employers and more than 400,000 employees in the five counties from Kern to Madera.

The purpose of the IEPR is to understand California's energy trends and issues in order to make policy recommendations to avoid future energy shortages and strike a balance between affordability and conservation.

Our concern is that the workshops are straying toward promoting a single energy source — electricity — with the overriding goal of zero emissions.

While our members support efforts to reduce emissions and ensure a healthy California, forcing electrification of all buildings could make living in California even more unaffordable and bring little in the way of reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

California Air Resources Board data show buildings represent only 11 percent of the state's annual greenhouse gas emissions with natural gas use in those buildings making up only 7.5 percent.

That's a very small GHG reduction considering the cost and effort that would be needed to get to that point.

Our transmission grid can't handle the massive load increase that would be needed to power new and retrofitted buildings. Who would pay for that upgrade?

Assuming this electricity would be provided only by renewable sources, such as wind and solar, not natural gas-fired power plants, buildings would need battery storage capacity in order to provide power after sunset and when the wind died down.

Costs for such battery storage and maintenance could negate any potential savings of electric rate reductions as suggested in the California Public Utilities Commission presentation at this workshop.

The reliability of such a patchwork system is also unclear. Energy reliability is a major issue for our many of our remote San Joaquin Valley Communities.

Finally, the state should not be in the business of choosing a "winner" in terms of technology.

Californians understand the need to conserve energy and reduce their carbon footprint.

When they are allowed to make their own choices, they tend to find more innovative pathways to the same goal that better fit their own needs.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Lois Henry, BizFed Central Valley's Advocacy Director. She can be reached at lois.henry@bizfed.org or (661) 204-3635.

Sincerely,



Joe Ashley
BizFed Chair
California Resources Corp.



Darius Assemi
BizFed Advocacy Co-Chair
Granville Homes



Steve Nelsen
BizFed Advocacy Co-Chair
Downtown Visalians