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## **Phasing out natural gas for heating buildings**

Burning natural gas will always add greenhouse gases (GHG) to the atmosphere, even if it is mixed with some methane from biogenic sources. Electricity can become carbon free. I would like you to make sure that incentives for shifting from natural gas to electricity for heating is available to all utility customers.

I am in the process of replacing my natural gas furnace with a heat pump and my natural gas water heater with a heat-pump water heater. My utility, PG&E, does not offer any incentive for such a shift but SMUD does offers rebates to do so. I understand that SMUD does not sell natural gas but PG&E does, however we need to move away from carbon emitting sources to preserve some quality of life in California. Beside, gas pipes leaks also release methane which has a very high global warming potential in the short run.

As a first step, the CEC should make sure that the electrification / decarbonization of residential heating becomes a priority by making sure that incentives are provided regardless of which utility is serving the residential area.