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**Comments from Robert Ito, Vice Chair of the Asian Business Association
of San Diego**

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

California Energy Commission Workshop
May 1, 2019
10:00 AM, 9192 Topaz Way, MOCH Auditorium
City of San Diego Public Utilities Department

Building Decarbonization - how the state plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings by converting everything that runs on natural gas to electricity.

Good morning, my name is Robert Ito, I am local real estate developer and the Vice Chair of the of the Asian Business Association of San Diego.

Talking Points:

- ✓ ABA is like the Asian American Chamber with 600 members
- ✓ In San Diego, there are 31,000 Asian owned businesses employing 50,000 people
- ✓ About 10% of these businesses are restaurants, 3,100
- ✓ Going from natural gas to electricity sounds really great
- ✓ But Change is Hard and can be costly
- ✓ What are the financial impacts on those 3,100 restaurants that have used natural gas for decades for cooking and making a living?
- ✓ Let's look at the option of green natural gas, making it carbon-neutral rather than taking natural gas away from businesses as an energy choice
- ✓ **The state can green its natural gas use by supporting the development of renewable natural gas (from landfills, wastewater facilities, and dairies) just like it has supported renewable electricity over the last 15 years**
- ✓ No costly retrofits
- ✓ No costly new appliances
- ✓ No significant electric bill increases
- ✓ Don't make it harder on small businesses

Robert Ito