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All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Commissioners,

As an architect long involved with energy-efficient building design, a former green building educator, a former member of the Compliance Improvement Advisory Group, and as an elder deeply concerned about the world that we are leaving our children and to all future generations, I urge you to hasten and encourage the decarbonization of our building stock, both new and existing.

The path to "carbon neutrality" that Governor Brown laid out in his Sept 2018 Executive Order #B-55-18, roughly accords with the path to zero emissions laid out in the Oct 2018 IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 degrees C: in order to have a 66% chance of limiting the increase in global average temperatures to 1.5 degrees C, our remaining carbon budget is equivalent to 9 years at current emission rates. A target of zero emissions by 2040 could theoretically satisfy this condition.

If we take this endeavor seriously, as we must, we will immediately curtail the use of all fossil fuels, including natural gas.

Period.