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Allow cities to achieve their Climate Action Plans

As lead author of our town's two Climate Action Plans (the first approved in 2008, the second in 2016), I urge the Commission to allow and approve new Reach codes for the 2020 cycle that encourage or require the electrification of new buildings.

Our Los Altos Hills greenhouse gas inventory clearly shows decreasing emissions from electricity and increasing emissions from natural gas. To meet our aggressive climate goals we must migrate our building stock away from dirty methane and the best way to start is with new buildings.

I have personal experience retrofitting my own home with electric heat pumps: one for hot water and a second for space heating & cooling. I know it is quite difficult and expensive for homes designed with natural gas appliances. We need to stop digging a deeper hole -- building homes that rely on fossil fuel -- and our town is trying to move quickly in that direction.

Please support our request for Reach codes promoting electrification of our buildings.