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*Comment Received From: Burt Culver  
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**Re Item 5 Local Ordinance Applications**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

Good Day,

I support adoption of these reach codes. I also urge the CEC to build off local leadership and take electrification further by setting an all-electric baseline for new construction in the 2022 building code.

Climate change is ravishing the planet. The planet is warming and our state is literally on fire. Climate change is making the fires more intense and more frequent. This summer California has lost 1.4 million acres to wildfire this year alone.

Methane, the main component of natural gas, is a major greenhouse gas. It has an impact on global warming 86 times that of CO2 in the first 20 years after its release. Yet, California's two major gas utilities get reports of gas leaks or emergencies more than ONCE EVERY MINUTE - 75 per hour and more than 1,800 per day\*. And that doesn't cover the entire state, or gas leaks that go unreported. SoCalGas leak detection picked up nearly 5,000 more leaks in 2018 that went undetected in facilities that were vacant.

From 2015 to 2016, the gas storage facility at Aliso canyon leaked 97,100 tonnes of methane into the air. That is equivalent to the emissions of 1,735,404 cars in one year.

California is hard pressed to reduce its emission of climate changing gasses and yet the entire natural gas network is constantly leaking methane into the atmosphere. The gas that does manage to be delivered to the customer is then burned emitting CO2. CO2 is a greenhouse gas that lingers in the atmosphere and contributes to global warming for 300 to 1000 years.

The cost of climate change to California's economy is expected to be hundreds of billions of dollars by 2050. These costs are not included in the price of natural gas. The real cost of natural gas is many, many multiples higher than the price utilities are charging.

Knowing all of this - how can the Energy Commission consider continuing to expand this polluting gas infrastructure? Why are we making it harder and harder to wind down this system that is directly causing climate change?

Another three years of building gas infrastructure would be a failure of leadership and a deletion of duty to protect our health and safety.

Gas is incredibly dirty. Gas is dangerous. Gas is expensive. Gas has got to go.

Burt Culver  
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