DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	19-BSTD-03
Project Title:	2022 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking
TN #:	235148
Document Title:	Bill Linstrom Comments - Propane is essential for our home
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Bill Linstrom
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	10/8/2020 9:44:53 AM
Docketed Date:	10/8/2020

Comment Received From: Bill Linstrom

Submitted On: 10/8/2020 Docket Number: 19-BSTD-03

Propane is essential for our home

My home is in Sonoma County, just outside Petaluma city limits. Home heating, cooking, and water heating are all propane. There are no economic alternatives to propane for my home. For example, while there is a central heating (forced air) system in my home, my home also has two propane stoves and a propane fireplace as primary heat for separate zones of the house. (the forced air system is not used). This distributed gas-powered heating architecture saves energy by eliminating the need to blow air through the ducting system of the house which causes heat loss to the environment in addition to the energy required to merely move the air. I estimate that using the forced air system wastes 30% of the energy used. Replacing the forced air system with an electric heat pump will cost tens of thousands of dollars, not to mention the cost of removing the gas heating stoves and converting the fireplace back to wood. Therefore, the only reasonable alternative to propane is natural gas. However, piping the natural gas from the nearest main to the house will also cost tens of thousands of dollars. With all these facts in mind, it is clear that eliminating propane is not an economically viable choice.