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R H Peterson Co Opposed to 2022 Energy Code That Ignores Fuel Options

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I represent a manufacturing business located in Southern California that produces and sells gas hearth products. These products are installed in wood burning fireplaces, using clean burning gas rather than wood.

Their benefit to the environment has been recognized by many local Air Quality Management Districts, who in some cases have incited homeowners to switch from wood burning to gas burning.

I am aware that the California Energy Commission staff are finishing the next energy code, which would go into effect on January 1, 2023. I've also seen a number of letters in this docket urging you to mandate all electric homes in this next energy code. I want to assure you that this is very premature. We need to continue to keep natural gas as a reliable energy option.

Other commenters are arguing that all-electric homes save money and are somehow cheaper. It's true that the cost of building the house is reduced, but certainly the electrical panel and the service hook up charge is greater. But people of this State are legitimately concerned that the day-to-day cost of their homes will be higher. Without reliable and affordable battery storage, all-electric homes are not possible.

It is easy to imagine that electricity will be quite expensive in the evening and will vary in price a lot during the day. Natural gas, on the other hand, varies in price only a little, and seasonally, not daily.

I know that someday we will limit natural gas in new homes as part of our state's climate goals, but until there is a lot more electrical storage, and a much more reliable electricity network (all underground?), 2023 is WAY too early.

The 2022 Energy code need to continue to include options for dual fuel (electric and gas) homes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jerry Scott
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14724 E Proctor Av Industry, CA 91746 Constituent