

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	19-BSTD-03
<b>Project Title:</b>	2022 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking
<b>TN #:</b>	235185
<b>Document Title:</b>	ABA Hearth & Home Comments - ABA Hearth & Home Concerned by Electricity Storage Limitations and the 2022 Energy Code
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	System
<b>Organization:</b>	ABA Hearth & Home
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Public
<b>Submission Date:</b>	10/9/2020 11:39:39 AM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	10/9/2020

*Comment Received From: ABA Hearth & Home  
Submitted On: 10/9/2020  
Docket Number: 19-BSTD-03*

## **ABA Hearth & Home Concerned by Electricity Storage Limitations and the 2022 Energy Code**

ABA Hearth & Home is small family owned business which employs 5 people in the retail and construction side of the business and has been in business for over 10 years. We serve the SF Bay Area Peninsula. A large percentage of our business is in sales of gas fireplaces, stoves and inserts.

I'm writing to you today about concerns I have about the 2022 energy code. I have a small business that sells and installs gas hearth products, many of which are designed and used as heaters.

For many of my customers, electricity is a huge expense. Forcing people to live in homes that are all electric doesn't recognize the limitations of energy storage options, or lack thereof.

California in general, and new homes in particular, doesn't have any good way to store electricity after the sun goes down on a cold winter evening. When residents hear the Governor call for an end to new non-electric cars in just a few years, and they know that, while they are in their home, they'll probably be charging their car, they know that means more electricity use. To offset that increased use and costs, they'll need energy alternatives, such as gas, to heat their homes affordably.

All-electric homes mean higher demand on a single energy source, not just in summer with rolling blackouts, but also in winter with high heating product demands and weather outages.

Electric fireplace options provide limited heat, typically around 5000 BTUs vs gas at 20,000 to 30,000 BTUs. The heat provided also costs considerably more than a gas heater. Gas fireplaces acting as efficient zone heaters allow residents to apply the heat where and when needed without heating the entire home. This will decrease the overall energy demand and greatly decrease the electric demand during high load periods.

During a time of increasing forced shutdowns of the electric grid, placing too much reliance on one source of energy will put many residents at risk of having no way to heat their homes, water or food for considerable lengths of time.

By keeping natural gas as a choice for residential buildings, it allows us options going forward with renewable natural gas and low, zero, and even negative carbon energy sources.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,  
Michael Hayden  
aba.mike8@gmail.com  
ABA Hearth & Home  
1494 Laurel St.  
San Carlos, CA 94070