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We Need a Strong Approach to Climate Change

Our energy code needs a much stronger approach to climate change. It is time to stop burning fossil fuels inside our buildings and shift to all electric (or at minimum for heating and water heating). Having all-electric be required is the only way we can meet renewable energy goals for climate change. T24 2022 goes into effect in 2023, but it can take years from permit through construction so new buildings will still be opening with gas in 2026. Building new mixed fuel buildings is creating more buildings that will need retrofits to meet our 2045 carbon neutral goals. Retrofits are more expensive and are difficult in occupied buildings and buildings are long lived assets with 50-75 year lifespan, so we need to get started on building them right quickly. We support the CEC's expansion of rooftop solar to more building types. We support a just transition from fossil fuels with policies that protect workers and low income communities. Thank you.