

DOCKETED

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Eliminate fossil fuels from new building;

I appreciate the sensitivity of the Commission to climate considerations. However, despite the long start CA has via the CALgreen regulations, the proposed rules don't meet the need.

First, the context: we need to virtually eliminate fossil fuel use in the next 14-25 years. Buildings have built-in path dependence of at least 30 years. So we are already way behind the eight ball. To authorize any more new construction that includes natural gas for any purpose is not "moderate" but totally radical, because it will ensure really extreme, severe climate effects that can at this stage still be partially avoided. That's not how opponents of eliminating fossil fuels in buildings look at themselves, but objectively they are trying to enforce a future that will make our wildfires, droughts, floods and sea level rise radically worse.

So my first request is that in addition to the electrification measures you are taking you also ban any natural gas installations in new construction.

My second point is that to continue the voluntary nature of the CALgreen codes is totally counter productive. It is nuts that hundreds of cities have to go through the decisions involved in ensuring that buildings will help us deal with the climate crisis rather than make it worse. The state needs to make the decisions that are required for reducing emissions. The Governor's recent directives asking agencies to plan for 100% renewable electricity by 2030 and netzero by 2035 should be what these regulations promote. Pull the new rules back and do it right!

Thank you for considering these comments. Please remember at this stage of the climate crisis, there is no "moderate" path.