

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	22-MISC-03
Project Title:	Energy Data Modernization
TN #:	248540
Document Title:	Marc Aranda Comments - Use of only Electric HVAC units and Heat Pumps
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Marc Aranda
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	1/26/2023 10:39:54 AM
Docketed Date:	1/26/2023

Comment Received From: Marc Aranda
Submitted On: 1/26/2023
Docket Number: 22-MISC-03

Use of only Electric HVAC units and Heat Pumps

As a facility construction manager for a public school district, I strongly oppose the mandate for use of only electric HVAC units and heat pumps for school districts. I agree that electric heaters are cost effective and easier to install; however, gas heating units have lower operational costs and warm larger spaces significantly better than electric heating units. We have large gas HVAC package units throughout our District. I've spoken to my mechanical contractors, and they do not carry large electric package units to replace our gas packaged units. Our District would absorb millions of dollars in cost to replace our existing units. This would put a financial hardship on our District. We would need to have mechanical and structural consultants design completely new HVAC systems for our District. We would need to purchase more smaller electric units to be able to support the HVAC system to our facilities.

My other concern is that during the warmer months, when air conditioning is needed (while adding additional electric HVAC systems to our facilities), how will our electric utility provider be able to support our facilities? I feel it will trigger major blackouts to the electric grid leaving our teachers and students without power and air conditioning. This will trigger major teacher union grievances causing more hardships. I don't want to sound like pessimistic; but I want to point out realities that will occur if this is a mandate. I suggest scaling back to all new classrooms at or under 960 square feet are required to use electric HVAC units and heat pumps. All replacement HVAC units for classrooms at or under 960 square feet are required to use electric HVAC units and heat pumps. At least this way our large footprint rooms like MPR's, Cafeterias, Gyms, Lecture rooms, and Libraries won't be affected. Thank you for your consideration.

Marc Aranda
Construction Project Manager