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Building Codes and Climate Change

Chair Hochschild & Commissioners -

California's 2025 Building code is an opportunity to address the significant impact that buildings - and the construction of them - have on our environment. As the climate crisis continues to unfold, it's imperative that the CA CEC look at all new building codes through the lens of climate impact.

Air conditioning units (A/C) are a good example. It's time that gas-powered units be phased out. The methane that usually powers them is a powerful greenhouse gas. In fact, methane has 80X more warming power than CO₂. All the current A/C systems can be replaced with cost-effective electric heat pumps. That has to be our goal.

Thank you,

-Dave Rhody
SF Policy Co-Chair
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