

**DOCKETED**

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## **IRA Comments, Suggestions, and Concerns in regards to Implementation**

Hello, I have been following the IRA progress for some time now. I purchased a home in July and there were some safety concerns regarding the electrical and gas powered appliances. Unfortunately, I had to start demolition on my house and in order to have the project done before our first is born. My wife and I are self-employed and do qualify for many of the rebates as a low income household. As I've reviewed the RFI document and researched the IRA, I have some comments, suggestions, and concerns in regards to the implementation, from the perspective of a home-owner.

1. There is a shortage of builders, construction workers, and contractors in California. It is particularly difficult, especially in underserved communities to find contractors who are available. Making the POS rebates only available to specifically trained contractors would create a bottle-neck in installations which would only keep the state from reaching its carbon goals. When possible, rebates should be provided directly to the household, not the contractor. Most contractors will naturally raise their price knowing that there is a rebate. The shortage has already fueled greed in the contractor community. When absolutely necessary, my suggestion is that rebates are made available to all licensed contractors who are able to show proof of their work and guarantee it for x amount of time.

4. REBATES SHOULD BE RETROACTIVE. This program has taken some time to roll out and families like our have been caught in the middle of the planning process and forced to move forward with our upgrades. We suggest that rebates are retroactive to at least the start of 2024 as this program was set to already be launched.

3. I am against the performance based rebates and they disincentive low income communities in participating. In addition, the administrative strain it would put on the system would work against meeting implementation goals.

4. Where possible, the rebates should be available on DIY projects. Many people my age are opting to install appliances and even heat-pump mini splits on their own. If it doesn't need a permit, the rebate should be available to an owner who wants to install the unit or appliance themselves.

5. Most importantly, we want to see this program implemented right away. We are eager to use these benefits and would like to see a program rolled out, even if it is not perfect at first.

From my family to yours, THANK YOU! For all that you're doing and the impact this program will have in the lives of our children.