

**From:** [Terry Nagel](#)  
**To:** [Bill Widmer](#); [Diana Hawkins-Manuelian](#); [Douglas Kim](#); [Elizabeth.Lewis.External](#); [George Rodericks](#); [Ralph Robinson](#); [Rick DeGolia](#); [Anthony Suber](#)  
**Subject:** Comments in support of a Reach Code - Item 3  
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Dear Mayor Lewis and Council Members,

I'm sure you've heard a lot about the benefits of electrifying buildings, including healthier indoor air quality, better safety and cost savings. Most importantly, electrification is one of the fastest ways we can address climate change because **buildings account for 27 percent of carbon emissions in California**. The state's transition to electric vehicles will address emissions coming from transportation, the biggest source of emissions, but getting emissions out of construction still requires support from elected officials.

Both the California Energy Commission and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District are moving toward requirements that will phase out natural gas, which is 97 percent methane. **It doesn't make sense to keep allowing builders to install two power systems** (gas and electric) in new buildings (at a higher cost to property owners) that are designed to last for decades when new laws will likely require owners to replace them.

**Powering water heaters and space heaters with heat pumps is not new technology**. It's been in widespread use in other parts of the U.S. and other countries for many years. Nearly 60 percent of new homes nationwide are being built all-electric and 40 percent have heat pumps. In fact, everyone with a refrigerator already has this technology in their home.

An added benefit of a heat pump space heater is that **it also acts as an air-conditioner**. As more local residents opt for home cooling systems because of rising temperatures and smoke from wildfires, it would be helpful to let them know that a new heat pump space heater can also cool their home.

There are many other reasons for supporting electrification, such as the number of new jobs it will create, the safety and superior performance of induction cooktops, and the many new electric alternatives there are for appliances, fireplaces and pool heaters (there are even electric saunas and heated lawn furniture), but **the major reason to support electrification is to show that you are serious about addressing climate change**.

Please join the many other cities on the Peninsula that support electrification and help your residents enjoy the benefits of cleaner, safer and more efficient electric energy.

Best regards,

Terry

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Terry Nagel

Chair, Sustainable San Mateo County

Former Mayor, Burlingame

[terrynagel@gmail.com](mailto:terrynagel@gmail.com) | 650-678-7082