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From: Karen Wigylus <karen.wigylus@msrlegal.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 2:28 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic; Schwedhelm, Tom; Rogers, Chris; Combs, Julie; Fleming, Victoria; Olivares, Ernesto; Sawyer, John; Tibbetts, Jack
Cc: Matt Henderson; Art Coon; CMOOffice; City Clerk; Manis, Dina
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter to City Council dated 10/22/19 w/14 attachments: Agenda Item No. 15.1 on October 22, 2019
Attachments: 2019-10-22 Ltr to City Council re 10-22 Agenda Item 15.1.pdf; 'This Did Not Go Well'_ Inside PG&E's Blackout Control Room - The New Yo....pdf; 500,000 in California Are Without Electricity in Planned Shutdown - Thepdf; campfire_cause.pdf; Eureka, County Seek Info on Impacts of Shutdown While Newsom Wants PG&Epdf; Next time it gets really windy, expect more power shut-offs - Los Angele....pdf; PG&E map sheds light on planned power outages in Sonoma County.pdf; PG&E power outage brings lines for gas, batteries, groceries and generat....pdf; PG&E slowly shuts off power to 800,000 customers in California.pdf; Power Outage Causes.pdf; PSPS Flyer (6).pdf; Updates_ Second wave of PG&E shutdowns rolls into Bay Area; thousands mo....pdf; Using backup power.pdf; FINAL_Backup Generation Fact Sheet_20190531.pdf; How the PG&E power shutdown impacted Shasta County patients.pdf
Importance: High

This email is sent on behalf of Matthew C. Henderson.
Please direct all replies to Matt at matthew.henderson@msrlegal.com.
Thank you, Karen.

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October 22, 2019

Via Email

City Council
City of Santa Rosa
City Hall
100 Santa Rosa Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Email: citycouncil@srcity.org

Re: City of Santa Rosa Proposed Adoption of All-Electric Residential Reach Code (October 22, 2019 City Council Meeting Agenda Item No. 15.1)

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm, Vice Mayor Rogers, and City Councilmembers:

This firm represents William Gallaher in conjunction with the above-referenced matter. Our client is extremely concerned with the potentially adverse planning, and environmental and health and safety effects that may occur from adoption and implementation of the All Electric Reach Code/Natural Gas Ban currently being considered for adoption as a local ordinance by the City of Santa Rosa ("City").¹ We only just learned that the City has placed a proposed reach code ordinance on the City Council agenda for the October 22, 2019 meeting (agenda item no. 15.1) with an accompanying staff report ("Staff Report").

We write to emphasize that the City cannot lawfully enact this ordinance as it now stands, for several reasons. First, the ordinance is premised on information not made available in sufficient advance of the meeting for meaningful public review or comment. Moreover, that information consists of a "2019 Cost-effectiveness Study: Low-Rise Residential New Construction" dated August 1, 2019 ("Study"), which is insufficient to support the proposed findings in support of the ordinance.

Second, the City must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"; Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.), which requires it in this case to prepare and certify a robust and legally-compliant Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") that fully analyzes and discloses all of the project's potentially significant

¹ A "reach" code is so called because it "reaches" beyond the State's Title 24 energy efficiency requirements by enacting different or more stringent regulations on energy efficiency related aspects of new residential and/or commercial construction.

environmental impacts and potentially feasible mitigation measures and project alternatives that could reduce such impacts to a less-than-significant level.

The Staff Report concludes, without analysis, that the ordinance is exempt from CEQA review under sections 15061, 15307, and 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines. Adoption of an all-electric reach code is clearly a discretionary "project" subject to CEQA; that substantial evidence supports a "fair argument" that this project may have one or more significant adverse environmental effects; and no exemption from CEQA applies; therefore, that an EIR must be prepared, certified and considered before such adoption may occur.

I. INSUFFICIENCY OF THE COST EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS

The requirements of section 10-106 of the state Building Energy Efficiency standards include the mandate that the City adopt "[a] determination that the [reach code] standards are cost effective," which require "findings and supporting analyses on the energy savings and cost-effectiveness of the proposed energy standards." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 24, § 10-106.) The only material submitted in support of the proposed ordinance is the Study. This is insufficient, for several reasons.

First, the Study only dates to August 1, 2019, less than 90 days ago. It has also only recently been put forth by the City as the basis for its proposed action on the reach code. This does not allow for informed comment by the public or informed decisionmaking by the City Council. It is manifestly unfair to provide the public and interested stakeholders such a short amount of time to read, digest, and comment upon a technical document such as the Study. Basic fairness requires the City to withdraw the proposed ordinance and give the public time to fully digest the analysis proffered in its support.

Second, it is not clear that the Study satisfies the mandates of section 10-106. It purports to analyze the cost effectiveness of a reach code for the entire state. (Study, p. 1 & Ex. A.) Section 10-106 requires that a local agency make its own "findings and supporting analyses of the energy savings and cost effectiveness of the proposed energy standards." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 24, § 10-106, subd. (b)(2).) Relying on a general statewide study does not satisfy this standard.

It is also not clear from the Study whether or not it accounts for tiered electricity pricing and how that would apply to all-electric construction under the proposed ordinance. It is also unclear as to whether all-electric construction would lead to residential units that cannot meet the requirements of the Building Energy Efficiency Standards in Part 6 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, which would preclude building altogether.

Accordingly, the proposed ordinance is not supported by the requisite cost effectiveness analysis, and therefore does not satisfy the mandate of section 10-106. The City therefore cannot enact the reach code.

II. CEQA REQUIREMENTS

Under CEQA's well-established standards, an agency is required to prepare an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR"), rather than a Negative Declaration, whenever substantial evidence in the record supports a "fair argument" that a project *may* have a significant effect on the environment. (*No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1974) 13 Cal.3d 68, 75, 82; *Quail Botanical Gardens Found. Inc. v. City of Encinitas* (1994) 29 Cal.App.4th 1597, 1602; *Friends of "B" Street v. City of Hayward* (1980) 106 Cal.App.3d 988, 1002.) Courts apply the "fair argument" test as a standard of judicial review for agency decisions to adopt a Negative Declaration. (See, e.g., *Gentry v. City of Murrieta* (1995) 36 Cal.App.4th 1359, 1399; *Stanislaus Audubon Society, Inc. v. County of Stanislaus* (1995) 33 Cal.App.4th 144, 150; *Quail Botanical Gardens Found. Inc., supra*, 29 Cal.App.4th at 1602.) The "fair argument" standard of review applies to mitigated negative declarations. (*Sierra Club v. California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection* (2007) 150 Cal.App.4th 370, 382; *Citizens for Responsible and Open Government v. City of Grand Terrace* (2008) 160 Cal.App.4th 1323, 1331-1332; see also Pub. Resources Code, §21064.5 [defining "mitigated negative declaration"].)

In other words, if a non-exempt project *may* cause a significant effect on the environment, the lead agency *must* prepare an EIR. (Pub. Resources Code, §§ 21100, 21151; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15064, subd. (a)(1)(f)(1).) An EIR may be avoided only if the lead agency properly finds no substantial evidence in the initial study or elsewhere in the record that the project may significantly affect the environment. A project "may" have a significant effect on the environment if there is a "reasonable possibility" that it will result in a significant impact. (*No Oil, Inc., supra*, 13 Cal.3d at 83, n.16; *Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino* (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d 296, 309.) A "significant effect upon the environment" is defined as "a substantial or potentially substantial adverse change in the environment." (Pub. Resources Code, § 21068; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15382.) If *any* aspect of the project may result in a significant environmental impact, an EIR must be prepared even if the overall effect of the project is beneficial. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15063, subd. (b)(1); *County Sanitation Dist. No. 2 v. County of Kern* (2005) 127 Cal.App.4th 1544, 1580.)

As is evident from the above-cited legal authorities, CEQA sets a very "low threshold" for requiring preparation of an EIR (*Pocket Protectors v. City of Sacramento* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 903, 928; *Bowman v. City of Berkeley* (2004) 122 Cal.App.4th 572, 580; see also *Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino, supra*, 202 Cal.App.3d at p. 310), such that if any substantial evidence supports the requisite "fair argument" that a project may have a significant environmental effect, the lead agency must prepare an EIR – even if it is also presented with other substantial evidence indicating that the project will have no significant effect. (*No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles, supra*, 13 Cal.3d at p. 85; *Brentwood Association for No Drilling, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1982) 134 Cal.App.3d 491, 503-504; *Friends of "B" Street, supra*, 106 Cal.App.3d at 1002; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15064, subd.

(f)(1).) Under the "fair argument" test, the lead agency may not weigh the competing evidence to determine who has a better argument concerning the likelihood or extent of a potential environment impact, but must direct the preparation of an EIR to resolve the issue. (See, e.g., *Friends of "B" Street, supra*, 106 Cal.App.3d at 1002; *Architectural Heritage Association v. County of Monterey* (2004) 122 Cal.App.4th 1095, 1109, 1122.)

"Substantial evidence" is evidence that has ponderable legal significance, i.e., evidence that is reasonable, credible and of solid value (*Stanislaus Audubon Society, Inc. v. County of Stanislaus* (1995) 33 Cal.App.4th 144, 152; *Newman v. State Personnel Board* (1992) 10 Cal.App.4th 41, 47; *Pennell v. Pond Union School Dist.* (1973) 29 Cal.App.3d 832, 837), and has been defined in the CEQA context as "enough relevant information and reasonable inferences from this information that a fair argument can be made to support a conclusion, even though other conclusions might also be reached." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15384(a); see also, Pub. Resources Code, §§ 21080(e), 21082.2(c); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15064, subd. (f)(5).) "Substantial evidence" is defined by the CEQA Guidelines to include, inter alia, "expert opinion supported by facts." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15384, subd. (a); see *id.* at § 15064, subd. (f)(5).) Opinion evidence submitted by a qualified expert, showing that significant impacts may occur from a project, is normally conclusive, and requires preparation of an EIR under the "fair argument" standard. (See, e.g., *City of Livermore v. LAFCO* (1986) 184 Cal.App.3d 531, 541.) "Statements by members of the public may [also] constitute substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment." (1 Kostka & Zischke, *Practice Under the California Environmental Quality Act* (Cont.Ed.Bar 2d ed. 2015), § 6.42, pp. 6-46.1 to 6-47, and cases cited; see also *Pocket Protectors v. City of Sacramento* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 903, 928 ["Relevant personal observations of area residents on nontechnical subjects may qualify as substantial evidence for a fair argument."].)

III. **SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE SUPPORTS A "FAIR ARGUMENT" THAT AN ALL-ELECTRIC REACH CODE IS A DISCRETIONARY PROJECT THAT MAY HAVE SIGNIFICANT UNMITIGATED ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS IN A NUMBER OF AREAS, THUS REQUIRING PREPARATION OF AN EIR**

A. **The Proposed Ordinance Is a CEQA "Project."**

There can be absolutely no doubt that a proposed local ordinance adopting a reach code, such as the one being proposed for consideration by the City, is a "project" that is subject to CEQA review. CEQA broadly defines "projects" to include any activities directly undertaken by public agencies which have the potential to ultimately culminate in physical change to the environment. (*City of Livermore v. Local Agency Formation Com.* (1986) 184 Cal.App.3d 531, 537; *Bozung v. Local Agency Formation Com.* (1975) 13 Cal.3d 263, 277-278, & fn. 16.) The Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal "ha[ve] given the term "project" a broad interpretation

and application to maximize protection of the environment." (*Tuolumne County Citizens For Responsible Growth, Inc. v. City of Sonoma* (2007) 155 Cal.App.4th 1214, 1222-1223, and cases cited; see *Aptos Council v. County of Santa Cruz* (2017) 10 Cal.App.5th 266, 278; *McQueen v. Board of Directors* (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d 1136, 1143.)

The courts' broad definition of a CEQA "project" is compelled by the plain language of the CEQA statutes and Guidelines. Thus: "'Project" means an activity which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and which is any of the following: (1) An activity directly undertaken by any public agency." (Pub. Resources Code, § 21085, subd. (a).) "[T]his division shall apply to discretionary projects proposed to be carried out or approved by public agencies, including, but not limited to, the enactment and amendment of zoning ordinances . . ." (Pub. Resources Code, § 21080(a).) While a reach code is not a classic "zoning ordinance," it operates like a zoning ordinance because it "ha[s] the effect of '[r]egulat[ing] the use of buildings, structures, and land'" (*People v. Optimal Global Healing, Inc.* (2015) 241 Cal.App.4th Supp. 1, 8), and as a local law regulating those areas it shares, for purposes of CEQA, the key attribute of zoning ordinances. (See *Morehart v. County of Santa Barbara* (1994) 7 Cal.4th 725, 750 ["The purpose of a zoning law is to regulate the use of land."].)

Zoning ordinances and local ordinances akin to them are *categorically* CEQA "projects." The CEQA Guidelines, in relevant part, define "project" as "the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and that is any of the following: (1) An activity directly undertaken by any public agency including but not limited to... enactment and amendment of zoning ordinances...." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15378, subd. (a)(1).) Indeed, under CEQA's broad definition of a "project," ordinances, laws and regulations affecting the use of land or structures have consistently been held to be CEQA "projects" over the course of many decades. (See, e.g., *Apartment Assn. of Greater Los Angeles v. City of Los Angeles* (2001) 90 Cal.App.4th 1162, 1169 ["Ordinances passed by cities are clearly activities undertaken by a public agency and thus "projects" under CEQA.], citing 60 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 335, 338 (1977); *County Sanitation Dist. No. 2 v. County of Kern* (2005) 127 Cal.App.4th 1544, 1558 [treating County ordinance restricting sewage sludge application on County lands as project under CEQA and further holding "CEQA requires the preparation of an EIR whenever substantial evidence supports a fair argument that an ordinance will cause potentially significant environmental impacts"]; *Id.* at p. 1578 ["Amendment or adoption of an ordinance is a legislative act subject to review under section 21168.5"], citations omitted; *Plastic Pipe & Fittings Assn. v. California Building Standards Com.* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 1390, 1412 ["A regulation fitting the description of a discretionary project is a discretionary project under CEQA."]; *Rosenthal v. Board of Supervisors* (1975) 44 Cal.App.3d 815, 823 ["In view of the fact that city ordinances were the subject matter in the *No Oil* case, it appears that it

was held impliedly therein that adopting an ordinance was a project within the meaning of the Environmental Quality Act"], citing *No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1974) 13 Cal.3d 68 [impliedly holding adoption of zoning ordinance permitting drilling of oil test wells was project within meaning of CEQA].)

B. The Proposed Project Is Not Exempt.

There can further be no doubt that a project proposing adoption of an all-electric reach code is not subject to any exemption from CEQA. Yet the Staff Report for the proposed ordinance cites three CEQA exemptions – the so-called “common sense” exemption, and the class 7 and 8 exemptions for actions that are protective of the environment. None apply here.

CEQA’s “common sense” exemption may properly be invoked *only* when the lead agency can declare “with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.” (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15061, subd. (b)(3).) “In the case of the commonsense exemption, the agency has the burden to “provide the support for its decision before the burden shifts to the challenger. Imposing the burden on members of the public in the first instance to prove a possibility for substantial adverse environmental impact would threaten CEQA’s fundamental purpose of ensuring that government officials ‘make decisions with environmental consequences in mind.’” (*California Farm Bureau Federation v. California Wildlife Conservation Bd.* (2006) 143 Cal.App.4th 172, 186, citing *Davidon Homes v. City of San Jose* (1997) 54 Cal.App.4th 106, 116, quoting *Bozung, supra*, 13 Cal.3d at 283.) “A remote or outlandish possibility of an environmental impact will not remove a project from the common sense exemption, but if legitimate reasonable questions can be raised about whether a project might have a significant impact, the agency cannot find with certainty the project is exempt.” (*Id.* at p. 194, citing *Davidon Homes, supra*, 54 Cal.App.4th at pp. 117-118.) Thus: “[T]he agency’s exemption determination must be supported by evidence in the record demonstrating that the agency considered possible environmental impacts in reaching its decision.” (*Davidon Homes v. City of San Jose, supra*, 54 Cal.App.4th at p. 117.)

“[T]he primary duty to comply with CEQA’s requirements must be placed on the public agency. To make faithful execution of the duty contingent upon the vigilance and diligence of particular environmental plaintiffs would encourage attempts by agencies to evade their important responsibilities. It is up to the agency, not the public, to ensure compliance with [CEQA] in the first instance.” (*Concerned Citizens of Costa Mesa, Inc. v. 32nd Dist. Agricultural Assn.* (1986) 42 Cal.3d 929, 939, citing *County of Inyo v. City of Los Angeles* (1977) 71 Cal.App.3d 185, 205.) “CEQA places the burden of environmental investigation on government rather than the public.” (*Leonoff v. Monterey County Bd. of Supervisors* (1990) 222 Cal.App.3d 1337, 1347 [“CEQA contemplates serious and not superficial or pro forma consideration of the potential environmental consequences of a project.”].)

" [A] party challenging what is essentially a claim of the commonsense exemption under Guidelines section 15061, subdivision (b)(3), unlike a party asserting an exception to a categorical exemption, need only make a "slight" showing of a reasonable possibility of a significant environmental impact. (*Davidon Homes, supra*, 54 Cal.App.4th at p. 117.) It is the lead agency that has the burden of establishing the commonsense exemption, i.e., that there is no possibility the project may cause significant environmental impacts. "[T]he agency's exemption determination must be supported by evidence in the record demonstrating that the agency considered possible environmental impacts in reaching its decision." (*California Farm Bureau Federation, supra*, 143 Cal.App.4th at 195-196, citing *Davidon Homes, supra*, 54 Cal.App.4th at 117, *East Peninsula Ed. Council, Inc. v. Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School Dist.* (1989) 210 Cal.App.3d 155, 171.)²

With respect to the class 7 and 8 exemptions under sections 15307 and 15308 of the Guidelines, such can only be used for an action that constitutes a preservation of the environment. (*Save Our Big Trees v. City of Santa Cruz* (2015) 241 Cal.App.4th 694, 707.) Here, the proposed reach code cannot be said to rise to this standard as it merely substitutes one source of energy for another, without any sufficient analysis as to whether that substitution will actually yield any benefit to the environment. As the Court of Appeal has aptly observed, "There may be environmental costs to an environmentally beneficial project, which must be considered and assessed." (*California Farm Bureau Federation v. California Wildlife Conservation Board, supra*, 143 Cal.App.4th at p. 186.)

In this context the case of *Dunn-Edwards Corp. v. Bay Area Air Quality Management Dist.* (1992) 9 Cal.App.4th 644 is instructive. There, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District sought to use the class 8 exemption for regulations reducing the solvent in architectural coatings. The Court of Appeal held that in spite of the fact that the regulations imposed more stringent standards there was not sufficient evidence in the record justifying the conclusion that it would actually protect the environment. The exact same analysis applies here, for the reasons discussed throughout this letter. There is simply no basis for the City to conclude that the reach code will not have a potentially significant impact on the environment. Thus, reliance on the class 8 exemption is not warranted. (See *International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union v. Board of Supervisors* (1981) 116 Cal. App.3d 265.)

² A lead agency intending to invoke the common sense exemption thus has the burden to consider the record and facts in the case before it prior to doing so. (*Muzzy Ranch, supra*, 41 Cal.4th at 386 ["Insofar as it failed to consider the record in determining that adopting the TALUP fell within the common sense exemption, the Commission erred."].) "An agency obviously cannot declare "with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment" (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15061, subd. (b)(3)) if it has not considered the facts of the matter." (*Id.* at p. 387, citing *Davidon Homes, supra*, 54 Cal.App.4th at 117.)

Note also in this context that section 10-106 of the Building Energy Efficiency Standards upon which the City relies requires the submission of materials in support of an application for a reach code. The specific submittals required do not extend to a notice of claimed exemption but a "negative declaration or environmental impact report, required pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 24, § 10-106, subd. (b)(4).) The provision clearly does not contemplate the use of an exemption because a reach code will invariably require environmental analysis under CEQA. Thus, the reliance on an exemption here is plainly in error.

Even if the ordinance were subject to a categorical exemption, it is clear that the unusual circumstances exception would apply, rendering the exemption inapplicable. (See Guidelines, § 15300.2, subd. (c).) Accordingly, substantial evidence supports a finding that the project presents unusual circumstances giving rise to the impacts discussed herein. These unusual circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following: PG&E's electricity service interruptions and/or blackouts that will potentially last for days in this and other Sonoma County areas, creating very serious health and safety problems if power is actually out that long and not resumed from a non-grid source; the jurisdiction and cumulative study area jurisdictions are in very high fire danger areas, increasing both the likelihood and seriousness of electricity blackouts; there are well-known serious traffic problems on Highway 101 making even longer commutes by displaced homebuyers and renters who want a choice other than all-electric more environmentally harmful. Accordingly, even assuming arguendo the categorical exemption applies, there is more than a fair argument that the adoption of the ordinance may have significant adverse environmental effects due to unusual circumstances which require actual analysis in a legally adequate initial study pursuant to CEQA.

This leads to another deficiency in the agenda report's CEQA discussion. What of cumulative impacts? (See Guidelines, § 15300.2, subd. (b).) If other jurisdictions in Sonoma County or Northern California more broadly enact similar ordinances, the increase in the demand for electricity will be potentially much greater than that from the City's alone, and so would the related impacts. What of increased generator usage? The impacts of battery purchases, which require the mining of elements such as lithium that comes with its own set of environmental problems? The potential for cumulative impacts is very real, and must be addressed.

Accordingly, it is abundantly clear that the ordinance is not subject to an exemption from CEQA review.

C. The City Must Conduct an Initial Study and Prepare an EIR Prior to Considering Adoption of an All-Electric Reach Code Ordinance.

Because proposed adoption of an all-electric reach code is a project that is subject to CEQA, and does not qualify for any exemption from CEQA review, the City is required to conduct an initial study to determine whether it may have any significant

environmental effects; if the initial study shows the project does not qualify for a negative declaration, the City must prepare an EIR. (*Muzzy Ranch Co. v. Solano County Airport Land Use Com.* (2007) 41 Cal.4th 372, 380-381.) The City's good faith performance of such a study here will show that adoption of an all-electric reach code may have significant and adverse environmental effects in numerous areas, including, but not limited to, aesthetics, recreation, utilities/service systems, GHG emissions, land use/planning, population/housing, air quality, wildfire, public safety, energy, hazards and hazardous materials, and public services. A few of these numerous areas of potentially significant impact are discussed in further detail below.

- **Hazards/Public Safety.** Ironically, an all-electric reach code ordinance is being considered at a time when the supply of electrical power to the City and surrounding communities may be less reliable and subject to more and longer planned outages than ever before. (See attached August 15, 2019 Press Democrat article, "PG&E Map Sheds Light On Planned Power Outages In Sonoma County.")³ As noted in the article, critics of the planned outages have "point[ed] to impacts on public safety, businesses and disabled people who rely on access to electricity." The article states "[a] prolonged, widespread outage... could have the potential to be very disruptive, officials acknowledged, posing problems ranging from cell phone service to storage of food." An announcement of the Petaluma Fire Department is quoted as stating: "ATM machines won't work, gas stations won't be able to pump gas, traffic signals will be out, garage doors will need to be opened manually.... Are you ready?" Without adequate battery storage of electricity, or an alternative power source, such as natural gas which powers backup generators and other appliances, "all-electric" homes and businesses will be subject to hazards and risks to public safety during outages when heat, lighting, water, refrigeration, food, and air conditioning may be unavailable.

Given the risk of blackouts, some residents will rely on propane or gasoline generators or other combustible sources of power which are more prone to accident or spillage than fixed natural gas lines. There is no discussion of the risks or impacts associated with such increased usage, including air quality, GHG, and fire impacts.

Note also that the 2018 Camp Fire, the deadliest in California history, was apparently caused by electrical transmission lines.⁴ There is no

³ See <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/9898428-181/pge-map-sheds-light-on>. We have also attached other recent articles relating to the PG&E blackouts and impacts resulting from the same.

⁴ See, e.g., https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/5038/campfire_cause.pdf.

analysis whatsoever in the Staff Report or any supporting materials as to any potential increase in fire risk from expanded electrical service facilities which the reach code would necessitate.

- **Utilities/Service Systems/Wildfire.** The CEQA Guidelines Appendix G checklist – a template for the initial study the City is required to conduct under CEQA – requires evaluation of the question of whether the project would “[r]equire or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded ... electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?” Projects requiring significant new construction to rely solely on electricity as a power source clearly have the potential to result in the installation, upgrading, and/or maintenance of associated infrastructure (e.g., roads, fuel breaks, power lines), and where such occurs in or near areas of high fire hazard the resulting environmental impacts must also be studied. (See Appendix G, Section XX WILDFIRE [listing potential impacts such as impairment of adopted emergency response and evacuation plans, exacerbation of wildfire risks, and other human safety and environmental risks and impacts].) And, as noted above, the most deadly fire in California history was started not by natural gas facilities, but by electrical lines. Moreover, also as noted above, increased generator use may give rise to its own increased risk of fire.

Similarly, the Staff Report and Study do not analyze whether the existing electrical grid is sufficient to satisfy the demand of all new construction under a 100% electricity standard. Given PG&E’s warnings about potential blackouts, the grid’s ability to handle this new demand is questionable at best. Moreover, the Staff Report and Study do not sufficiently discuss the sources of the additional electricity required under the proposed reach code, nor the impacts related to those sources. Natural gas powered plants will naturally obviate most if not all of the supposed benefit of gas-free construction. Wind and solar have well-known impacts relating to wildlife, aesthetics, etc.⁵ And hydroelectric power comes with its own suite of impacts as well, including harm to anadromous fish and other species⁶ and the risk of failure and flood (as with the Oroville Dam

⁵ See https://www.ucsusa.org/clean_energy/our-energy-choices/renewable-energy/environmental-impacts-solar-power.html;
https://www.ucsusa.org/clean_energy/our-energy-choices/renewable-energy/environmental-impacts-solar-power.html.

⁶ See <https://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/lind/lind6.pdf>;
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Liba_Pejchar/publication/11779066_A_River_Might_Run_Through_It_Again_Criteria_for_Consideration_of_Dam_Removal_and_I

crisis of 2017). In fact, hydroelectric facilities in California and the west are being removed, making this source of power uncertain for future electricity needs.⁷

- **GHG/Air Quality.** The cursory Staff Report undertakes no actual analysis of the proposed reach code's effect on GHG emissions or air quality. An all-electric reach code would eliminate gas-powered heaters, stoves, water heaters, built-in outdoor barbeques, gas burning fireplaces, fire pits, and, as noted above, gas-powered backup generators to protect against losses, disruptions and safety problems from blackouts of a fragile and overburdened electrical grid. Alternative fuel sources – such as wood, gasoline or charcoal – exist for many of these amenities, and could be substituted for the cleaner-burning natural gas that the proposal would eliminate, leading to greater GHG emissions and air quality impacts. Such unintended, but clearly reasonably foreseeable, adverse environmental consequences must be fully evaluated under CEQA. (See, e.g., *Rodeo Citizens Association v. County of Contra Costa* (2018) 22 Cal.App.5th 214 [recognizing that to extent captured butane and propane were used to displace use of other fuels such as coal, home heating fuel, fuel oil, diesel, kerosene, gasoline and ethanol, they would also displace GHG emissions otherwise resulting from use of those alternate fuels].) For example, propane barbeques produce only one-third of the GHG emissions of charcoal barbeques (*id.* at p. 226), and natural gas is similarly a much cleaner burning fuel than charcoal, wood or gasoline. Moreover, the increased use of diesel, gasoline, and/or propane generators may also give rise to air quality and/or GHG impacts that are completely unanalyzed in the Staff Report.
- **Population and Housing/Human Impacts.** Projects that would displace substantial numbers of people or housing, or render housing unaffordable, may have significant adverse impacts on the environment and human beings that require CEQA analysis and mitigation. (See CEQA Guidelines, Appdx. G, Section XIV.) To the extent an all-electric reach code could, for example, substantially increase the cost of new multi-family apartment dwelling construction and/or retrofitting, it could lead to increased rents, unaffordable housing, and tenant displacement from the same, with resulting adverse human impacts. Alternatively, renters or home buyers may

[interim Lessons From California/links/004635277e83e0f755000000/A-River-Might-Run-Through-It-Again-Criteria-for-Consideration-of-Dam-Removal-and-Interim-Lessons-From-California.pdf](https://www.klamathrenewal.org/interim-lessons-from-california/links/004635277e83e0f755000000/A-River-Might-Run-Through-It-Again-Criteria-for-Consideration-of-Dam-Removal-and-Interim-Lessons-From-California.pdf).

⁷ See <http://www.klamathrenewal.org/>.

prefer residences with traditional gas appliances and therefore show a greater propensity to move outside of the City and commute. Tenant displacement, in and of itself, has been recognized as a significant adverse environmental impact subject to CEQA analysis and mitigation. (*Lincoln Place Tenants Assn. v. City of Los Angeles* (2007) 155 Cal.App.4th 425 [holding CEQA mitigation measures designed to mitigate tenant displacement impacts of project, contained in a vesting tentative map, were enforceable and did not conflict with Ellis Act].) Public entities possess the power under existing law "to mitigate adverse impacts on displaced tenants." (*San Francisco Apartment Assn. v. City and County of San Francisco* (2016) 3 Cal.App.5th 463, 484, citing *Pieri v. City and County of San Francisco* (2006) 137 Cal.App.4th 886, 892; see Gov. Code, § 7060.1.) As explained by the *Lincoln Place* Court of Appeal, "CEQA... is made relevant... by the Ellis Act's explicit exceptions for a public agency's power to regulate, among other things,... the mitigation of adverse impacts on persons displaced by reason of the withdrawal of rental accommodations. Such items are the common focus and byproducts of the CEQA process...." (*Lincoln Place Tenants Assn., supra*, 155 Cal.App.4th at 451, *emph. added.*) Indeed, the Supreme Court has recently reaffirmed "that CEQA addresses human health and safety" and "that public health and safety are of great importance in the statutory scheme." (*California Building Industry Assn. v. Bay Area Air Quality Management Dist.* (2015) 62 Cal.4th 369, 386, citations omitted.) CEQA's "express language... requires a finding of a "significant effect on the environment" ([Pub. Resources Code,] § 21083(b)(3)) whenever the "environmental effects of a project will cause substantial effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.'" (*Id.* at p. 386, *emphasis in original.*)

- **Land Use/Planning.** Given the foregoing, the Staff Report's complete lack of analysis of the consistency of the proposed ordinance with the City's General Plan is impermissible. While the City has discretion in interpreting and applying its General Plan, it cannot do so in a way that frustrates the purpose of the General Plan. (*Napa Citizens for Honest Government v. Napa County Board of Supervisors* (2001) 91 Cal.App.4th 342, 378-381.) The absence of any analysis in the Staff Report is fatal to the ordinance. Accordingly, further analysis of this issue is required.

IV. CONCLUSION

While Mr. Gallaher reserves all rights to submit further comments, arguments, and evidence, it is evident for the reasons set forth above that (1) the City cannot lawfully make the findings required to enact the proposed reach code ordinance,

and (2) a full and robust EIR that complies with CEQA must be prepared and certified before any ordinance adopting an all-electric reach code can be considered by the City for approval.

Very truly yours,

MILLER STARR REGALIA



Matthew C. Henderson

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'This Did Not Go Well': Inside PG&E's Blackout Control Room

As the utility turned off power to millions of Californians, its website went down and it struggled to communicate with local officials and inform residents.

By Ivan Penn

Oct. 12, 2019

SAN FRANCISCO — It was a problem that California had come to dread. Weather models were signaling extreme winds and dry conditions from one end of the state to the other. The risk of wildfires was high.

Pacific Gas & Electric, the giant utility whose power lines and transformers have been blamed for a series of disastrous wildfires in recent years, was determined to prevent another one.

Just before last weekend, the company informed state officials that it might shut off power to a large area of Northern California, potentially leaving millions of people in the dark — something no United States utility had done in recent memory. It made that news public on Monday. By Tuesday morning, about a hundred utility executives, state officials, meteorologists and others had gathered at an operations center in San Francisco to coordinate the effort.

Things quickly began going wrong. PG&E's communications and computer systems faltered, and its website went down as customers tried to find out whether they would be cut off or spared. As the company struggled to tell people what areas would be affected and when, chaos and confusion unspooled outside. Roads and businesses went dark without warning, nursing homes and other critical services scrambled to find backup power and even government agencies calling the company were put on hold for hours.

All told, more than 700,000 homes or businesses — from the state's northernmost reaches to the outskirts of Silicon Valley — lost electricity beginning early Wednesday morning, and the state's emergency center usually used for natural disasters was activated. Most residents had power restored by noon on Friday, and just over 12,000 were still without it on Saturday morning.

"There were definitely missteps," said Elizaveta Malashenko, a representative for the state Public Utilities Commission who was in the control center. "It's pretty much safe in saying, this did not go well."

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While California prides itself on its technical prowess and economic might, PG&E had to send crews out into the fields, in a few cases, to manually flip switches to turn off power and then turn it back on, rather than doing it remotely.

Residents were left asking why so many people had to lose power and whether rolling blackouts would become routine as climate change makes wildfires more frequent and intense.

The company, which is facing \$30 billion in liabilities from recent wildfires started by its equipment, has drawn intense scorn from both its customers and state officials.

"This current operation is unacceptable," Gov. Gavin Newsom said Thursday. "The current conditions and circumstances are unacceptable."

Trouble has long dogged PG&E, California's largest utility and one of the biggest in the country. The company has said one of its transmission lines was probably responsible for the most destructive wildfire in state history, the Camp Fire, which killed more than 80 people and destroyed the town of Paradise last November. About a decade earlier, one of the company's gas lines south of San Francisco exploded, destroying a neighborhood and killing eight people.

This summer, PG&E and its newly appointed chief executive, Bill Johnson, had promised to do better. Blamed for its lax safety practices, the utility submitted a detailed plan to regulators on the protocol it would use to pre-emptively black out parts of its service area to prevent fires. It also promised to step up the trimming of trees along its transmission lines and make other changes.

"We did not deliver on this commitment this time," Mr. Johnson said Thursday evening as hundreds of thousands of his customers sat in the dark. "We were not prepared to manage the operational event."



At Colonial Donuts in Oakland, pastries were available but no hot drinks. The only illumination came from a large window in the front of the store. Jim Wilson/The New York Times

A Communications Breakdown

Catherine Maynes, who handles logistics for Generators Unlimited, which supplies power backup equipment throughout Northern California, said she knew it was going to be a busy week as early as last weekend, when reports of the growing fire hazard started to surface.

Monday was a normal day at Generators Unlimited because it was not yet clear when the blackouts would start and who would be affected. It was on Tuesday that everything changed.

“First thing in the morning, as we opened the door, the calls started pouring in,” said Ms. Maynes, who works in Brisbane, south of San Francisco. “It never stopped ringing.”

While people and companies with means could turn to businesses like Ms. Maynes for backup power, many others did not have that luxury. When they tried to get more information, answers were often not forthcoming.

One option was community resource centers, places run by the utility where affected residents were supposed to be able to cool off and charge their phones. But they often got little information or assistance there because PG&E had not adequately staffed the centers, said a senior state official with knowledge of the situation who was not authorized to speak publicly.

Meanwhile, state agencies, in charge of services like railways and the water supply, were forced to open the state’s emergency operations center, which is normally used for actual disasters like earthquakes and fires, the official said. The center was running at Level 2, the same level it operated on during the Ridgecrest earthquake over the summer. And the local authorities were forced to bear the cost of additional staffing, including overtime hours for police officers, to deal with the shutdown.

This was a big moment for PG&E, which does not have extensive experience using what California officials refer to as a “public safety power shut-off.” Its previous wildfire shut-offs had been limited to tens of thousands of customers — and it was ill prepared for the task.

Ms. Malashenko, deputy executive director for safety and enforcement at the California Public Utilities Commission, arrived at 9 a.m. on Tuesday for the first of her two 12-hour shifts at PG&E’s operations center. She said she was stunned by what she saw. PG&E’s website crashed just ahead of the first rounds of power shut-offs that would leave thousands in the dark.

In addition, the systems the company uses to alert residents and businesses that they would lose power didn’t work as they were supposed to, Mr. Johnson, the chief executive, later acknowledged.

The situation got so bad at one point that Ms. Malashenko called in information technology specialists from the state to help restore PG&E’s systems. (Besides Ms. Malashenko, representatives from the state emergency services and forestry and fire prevention agencies were also at the center to help coordinate the government’s response with the utility and to relay information to state leaders, including Mr. Newsom.)

PG&E declined requests for interviews for this article with company officials who were at the emergency center.

Communication seemed to improve later on Tuesday before the first round of shut-offs began at 2 a.m. on Wednesday after Ms. Malashenko’s colleagues from the state lent the company a hand. But within four hours after those blackouts began, PG&E’s website crashed again.

"It never got to the point where it worked well," Ms. Malashenko said.

At the same time, on Tuesday, the weather forecast was becoming even more dire. PG&E's team of meteorologists were now identifying 34 counties as under threat from strong winds and dry conditions, up from 30 earlier.

Utility executives rely on the meteorology team, along with information from the National Weather Service, to decide what areas will lose power and when conditions are safe enough for crews to restore power.

Based on its models, PG&E now anticipated that the winds would reach 40 to 55 miles per hour from Wednesday morning through Thursday morning, with isolated gusts up to 60 to 70 m.p.h.

That forecast was off a good bit: Winds reached as high as 77 m.p.h. at Mount St. Helena in Northern California. Wind speeds are important because strong gusts can blow trees into power lines or knock utility equipment into brush, setting off fires.

By Thursday evening, as the winds died down, PG&E began dispatching its 44 helicopters and 6,300 employees and contractors to inspect damage and restore power to some areas.

A Different Approach

While some experts think utilities ought to have better ways to prevent wildfires than cutting off power, the utility industry considers this acceptable in cases of grave weather threats, and other California utilities have used the approach.

What was unusual about PG&E's approach was that other utilities had never targeted as many customers.

"Today marks an unprecedented turn in the history of electricity in California," State Senator Jerry Hill, chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy, Utilities and Communications, said in a letter on Wednesday to the utilities commission. "This situation is not acceptable nor sustainable."

Mr. Hill said PG&E appeared not to have reviewed or learned from the utility that pioneered use of blackouts to prevent wildfires, San Diego Gas & Electric.

The San Diego utility was widely criticized when it first used power shut-offs as a wildfire prevention tool in the late 2000s.

"Our journey began over a decade ago with the devastating wildfires of 2007," said Caroline Winn, chief operating officer for SDG&E. "Those fires became a game changer for our company."

Ms. Winn said there was no blueprint that her company could consult when it created its wildfire prevention program. Among the steps it took early on were hiring a large team of meteorologists, including veterans of the National Weather Service; installing devices that measure weather conditions at various locations in its service area; and using technology that allowed the utility to remotely switch off power to designated areas.

Even though many fire and energy experts credit the company with being proactive and thoughtful, residents and lawmakers in its service area initially expressed frustration with the utility's approach.

"It was met with fierce opposition," Ms. Winn said. "Why are you doing it? Nobody else is doing that."

To address those concerns, Ms. Winn said the San Diego utility conducted town hall meetings and adjusted its efforts by, for example, limiting the size of areas that were blacked out.

The president of the state utilities commission, Marybel Batjer, said PG&E needed to similarly adapt its approach and learn from its mistakes.

"The situation frankly has been unacceptable," Ms. Batjer said at a commission meeting on Thursday while PG&E was still wrestling with its blackouts. "The impacts to individual communities, to individual people, to the commerce of our state, to the safety of our people, has been less than exemplary. This cannot be the new normal. We can't accept it as the new normal. And we won't."

Tim Arango contributed reporting from Los Angeles and David Yaffe-Bellany from New York.

A version of this article appears in print on Oct. 13, 2019, Section A, Page 1 of the New York edition with the headline: Blackout Effort 'Did Not Go Well' For Californians

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500,000 in California Are Without Electricity in Planned Shutdown

Pacific Gas & Electric is cutting electricity as a precaution against sparking wildfires in high-wind conditions.



By **Thomas Fuller**

Published Oct. 9, 2019 Updated Oct. 10, 2019



A hardware store in Piedmont, Calif., on Tuesday, ahead of a planned power shut-off by the state's largest utility.
Jim Wilson/The New York Times

CALIFORNIA BLACKOUTS *Read the latest on the PG&E power outage.*

SAN FRANCISCO — A deliberate power outage that spanned large parts of Northern California on Wednesday sent hundreds of thousands of people scrambling for gasoline and other essentials as strong, gusty winds and months of dry weather put the state on alert for wildfires.

The state's largest power utility, Pacific Gas & Electric, said it had cut power to 500,000 customers soon after midnight. A second round of cuts affecting 250,000 more customers in the hills surrounding the San Francisco Bay Area had been scheduled for noon but was delayed.

"It's all dependent on weather conditions," said Jeff Smith, a spokesman for the company. Mr. Smith could not give a new time for the next round of blackouts, though a Police Department in the East Bay of San Francisco said the new power shut-off time was 8 p.m.

While PG&E said that hundreds of thousands of customers would lose power, an entire apartment building can be considered a single customer. Once the two phases are complete, around 2.5 million people will be without electricity, according to one estimate.

The power company described Wednesday's cuts as a precaution, hoping to prevent its electrical equipment and power lines from sparking blazes in dangerous conditions.

[Sign up for our daily newsletter about news from California here.]

These are not your average California winds.

Meteorologists compared the winds forecast for Wednesday to those that propelled fires through wine country two years ago.

Hannah Chandler-Cooley, a meteorologist in the National Weather Service's Sacramento office, said a strong weather system moving through the Great Basin was causing the high winds across Northern California.

"Northerly winds first and foremost really dry out the area," she said, a risky combination with grasses and vegetation in the summer and fall, when there has not been much rain.

Ms. Chandler-Cooley said the region rarely gets north winds, which blow for only a few days just a few times a year, and can cause trees to topple or limbs to fall — often on power lines. Adding to her concern are forecasts of "pretty extreme winds," with sustained speeds of 20 to 30 miles per hour and gusts at 35 to 45 miles per hour or higher in some areas, like mountain canyons.

While the power outage may help prevent sparks, she urged residents to practice fire safety, recalling that several wildfires last year were caused not by downed power lines but by human activity. The Carr fire spread after sparks from the wheel rim of a car fell on dry grass.

The utility is trying to avoid a repeat of the deadly fires that have ravaged the state.

The company has been found responsible for dozens of wildfires in recent years, including the state's deadliest, an inferno in and around the town of Paradise last November that killed 86 people.

Over the summer the utility turned off power to less-populated areas in Northern California, but this shut-off is by far the company's most extensive, affecting large parts of the San Francisco Bay Area.

More than half of all counties in California — 34 out of 58 — are expected to be affected by the power cut, according to PG&E, one of the country's largest utilities.

The outages have upended daily life for many in the Bay Area.

Officials in Santa Rosa, about 50 miles north of San Francisco, said they had responded to multiple traffic collisions, including five with injuries, at intersections without power. "Please slow down and treat all intersections without power as a four-way stop," city officials said on Twitter.

[In NYT Parenting: Mothers band together to save breast milk during the outage.]

For residents in assisted-care homes or dependent on medical equipment in their own homes, the power cutoffs added to their daily challenges and stoked the worries of family members.

"My father is in a nursing home in Santa Rosa working on backup power," Daisy Pistey-Lyhne of Santa Rosa said. A sister with a disability, who lives in a nearby apartment complex, still had power on Wednesday, but Ms. Pistey-Lyhne was busy trying to make contingency plans.

In Oakland, Stacey Milbern, who uses a ventilator for breathing and needs other medical devices, spent more than two hours on Tuesday afternoon calling PG&E to try to find out whether her home would lose power and whether she would get additional assistance.

She learned that her home did fall in an area affected by the outage. But she still had her power on Wednesday afternoon. "Honestly, I have so much privilege. I work full-time from home," she said. "But for the everyday disabled person, it's so scary."

As of late Wednesday afternoon, PG&E spokesman Jeff Smith could not confirm whether any Bay area hospitals would lose power during the second phase of planned shut-offs, which are expected to take place Wednesday evening.

"There may be some hospitals that are in the footprint, but we won't know for sure," Mr. Smith said. "We're working extensively with locations like hospitals to ensure that they have an emergency plan."

Turning the power back on could take as long as five days.

PG&E anticipates that it will begin turning power back on starting Thursday, when winds subside.

But re-energizing power lines is a tricky process, even after the winds subside. Sumeet Singh, a PG&E vice president, said in a briefing Tuesday night that technicians will need to inspect "every inch" of line before restoring power. That could take as long as five days, he said.

PG&E's website was down for many people, right when they needed it.

On Wednesday morning, Pacific Gas & Electric customers across Northern California said they were frustrated by difficulties getting information about blackouts and when power might be restored. Many blamed the utility for cutting power before they believed it was really necessary.

"There hasn't been even the slightest bit of wind in the entire county," Candace Benny, whose power was cut in Sonoma County, wrote in an email.

"One would have expected PG&E to at least wait to see if there was actually going to be an event that warranted such a move."

The utility's website was working only intermittently — something Ms. Benny mentioned, too.

In Santa Rosa, Ms. Pistey-Lyhne woke up without power in her home, which she said was at the edge of where the power cutoff had been planned in her neighborhood.

Though Ms. Pistey-Lyhne made preparations for the blackout, she expressed concern that many others in the region were left unaware. She said that she had found out only on Tuesday afternoon that the power would be shut off overnight.

"I don't think PG&E did a great job," she said, despite the local government's work on improving emergency preparedness and communications. "It was less than 12 hours' notice."

Residents have been stocking up on generators and water.

Shoppers emptied supermarket shelves of batteries, water and other essentials, with many hitting the stores on Tuesday night and early Wednesday while power was still on.

In the small beach town of Montara, just down Route 1 from San Francisco, Heidi Kay and her partner, Steve Christie, took an inventory on Wednesday of their few supplies, which amounted to little more than granola bars, oatmeal and fruit, said Mr. Christie, 49. "We haven't really stocked up on anything," he said.

Ms. Kay, 39, had driven to the nearby town of San Bruno to buy a few groceries after finding the Target near her office had been practically stripped bare.

The hardware store was also "out of everything," she said, so Montara residents were taking matters into their own hands on the neighborhood social app Nextdoor.

"Everyone on there is in search of a generator," she said. "It's mad chaos."

Over the summer, stores in Northern California reported higher-than-usual sales of gasoline generators. For those who missed out, PG&E established around 30 facilities stocked with bottled water and outlets to charge electronic devices.

Lines at gas stations were 20 cars deep on Tuesday night, reported Gary Bowman of Grass Valley in the Sierra Foothills area midway between Sacramento and Reno, Nev. But on Wednesday morning, as he and his wife searched for a restaurant to have breakfast in, he found the area "deader as a doornail."

Mr. Bowman, a recently retired schools superintendent who also spent 10 years as a wildland firefighter, said he would spend the day working on his two-acre property, where he tames the undergrowth to help keep fires at bay.

"We've had power outages in the deep winter when the cold and darkness are issues," he said, "so to get something like this in October, when it's 70s and sunny, is not so bad."

Mass transit is running, but many schools are canceling classes.

The main mass transit systems serving the San Francisco Bay Area — BART and Caltrain — said they would maintain service.

A number of schools in San Jose and Oakland said they would close for as long as there was no power. The University of California, Berkeley, canceled classes on Wednesday.

The East Bay Municipal Utility District, a water utility, said its pumping capacity would be affected by the shut-off and urged its customers to minimize water use and turn off their irrigation systems.

How much does a power cut reduce the risk of wildfire?

PG&E, which filed for bankruptcy in January in the face of tens of billions of dollars in wildfire liabilities, has been repeatedly castigated and admonished by a judge overseeing an effort to improve the company's safety culture and remove vegetation near its electrical lines.

The deliberate power cuts have been described by PG&E as a way to lower the risk of fire while the company proceeds with its vegetation-trimming program. But by no means does it remove the risk of fires entirely.

Climate change, years of drought and the construction of houses and communities in wildland areas have all contributed to the spate of intense and deadly fires in California in recent years. In addition to electrical equipment, the direct causes of the fires have included lawn mowers, campfires, arson and, in one case, a man trying to plug a wasp's nest with a metal spike.

Wildfires that ignite in extreme wind conditions can be very difficult to bring under control, firefighters say. The deadliest fires of the past two years — the one that razed Paradise last year and the wine country fires of 2017 — both occurred in similar conditions to the ones that meteorologists are forecasting this week.

Thomas Fuller reported from San Francisco. Reporting was contributed by Jill Cowan and Sona Patel from Los Angeles; Lauren Hepler from San Jose, Calif.; Scott Bransford from Winters, Calif.; and Dan Levin and Adeel Hassan from New York.

Thomas Fuller is the San Francisco bureau chief. He has spent the past two decades in postings abroad for The Times and the International Herald Tribune in Europe and, most recently, in Southeast Asia. @thomasfullerNYT • Facebook

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CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



CONTACT: Michael Mohler
Deputy Director
(619) 933-2357

RELEASE
DATE: May 15, 2019

CAL FIRE Investigators Determine Cause of the Camp Fire

Sacramento – The Camp Fire in Butte County, started the morning of November 8, 2018, and burned a total of 153,336 acres, destroying 18,804 structures and resulting in 85 civilian fatalities and several firefighter injuries. The Camp Fire is the deadliest and most destructive fire in California history.

CAL FIRE investigators were immediately dispatched to the Camp Fire and began working to determine the origin and cause of the fire. After a very meticulous and thorough investigation, CAL FIRE has determined that the Camp Fire was caused by electrical transmission lines owned and operated by Pacific Gas and Electricity (PG&E) located in the Pulga area.

The fire started in the early morning hours near the community of Pulga in Butte County. The tinder dry vegetation and Red Flag conditions consisting of strong winds, low humidity and warm temperatures promoted this fire and caused extreme rates of spread, rapidly burning into Pulga to the east and west into Concow, Paradise, Magalia and the outskirts of east Chico.

The investigation identified a second ignition sight near the intersection of Concow Rd. and Rim Rd. The cause of the second fire was determined to be vegetation into electrical distribution lines owned and operated by PG&E. This fire was consumed by the original fire which started earlier near Pulga.

During 2018 there were more than 7,571 wildfires that burned over 1.8 million acres within the state of California.

The Camp Fire investigative report has been forwarded to the Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey. For any questions related to the Camp Fire investigation, contact Mike Ramsey at (530) 538-7411 or at mramsey@buttecounty.net or mnoel@buttecounty.net.

Californians must remain vigilant and be prepared for wildfire. For more information on how to be prepared, visit www.readyforwildfire.org or www.fire.ca.gov. CAL FIRE also offers a free Ready for Wildfire app for iPhones and Android phones.

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Tuesday, October 15, 2019

BUSINESS / ECONOMY / COMMUNITY / GOVERNMENT

Eureka, County Seek Info on Impacts of Shutdown While Newsom Wants PG&E to Pay

POSTED BY KIMBERLY WEAR ON TUE, OCT 15, 2019 AT 10:47 AM

click to enlarge



MARK MCKENNA

Eureka and the county of Humboldt want to hear from you about last week's power shutdown.

The city of Eureka and the county of Humboldt are asking residents to help officials assess the economic damages and impacts to families as a result of PG&E's Oct. 9 shutdown of the power grid.

The blackout was what is known as a "public safety power shutoff," a mechanism enacted by PG&E when certain weather outlooks arise — in last week's case dry

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Kimberly Wear is the assistant editor of the *North Coast Journal*.

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conditions and strong winds — that substantially increase the risk of a devastating wildfire.

According to a release from Eureka, the city is seeking the information via email reports because it is “pursuing a State Emergency Declaration that may in turn offer assistance to those businesses that incurred a loss.”

“Even if Eureka is not successful in securing the Emergency Declaration, we would like to know what this loss of power cost each of our businesses,” the city’s release states.

The county’s survey, which is available online ([click here](#)), is more extensive and looks to measure not just economic losses, but also how residents found out about the shutdown and how prepared they were, as well as how they were able to receive information during the outage.

Meanwhile, Gov. Gavin Newsom has sent a letter to PG&E urging the company to pay \$100 per residential customer and \$250 per small business “as some compensation for their hardships,” according to a release from his office.

“Californians should not pay the price for decades of PG&E’s greed and neglect,” Newsom says in the release. “PG&E’s mismanagement of the power shutoffs experienced last week was unacceptable. We will continue to hold PG&E accountable to make radical changes — prioritizing the safety of Californians and modernizing its equipment.”

Read the Eureka release below:

The City of Eureka is asking all businesses to provide the City with a report regarding estimated losses related to PG&E’s Public Safety Power Shut-off. Eureka is pursuing a State Emergency Declaration that may in turn offer assistance to those businesses that incurred a loss. Even if Eureka is not successful in securing the Emergency Declaration, we would like to know what this loss of power cost each of our businesses.

Please e-mail an estimate of the losses your business sustained due to the power outage. Include the name of your business, address and amount of financial loss of either product or revenue due to the outage. This information will be used to establish an overall loss sustained by businesses and government during the Public Safety Power Shut-off.

*Information can be emailed to:
Swan Asbury, Economic Development
sasbury@ci.eureka.ca.gov*

Facebook post from the Humboldt County Office of Emergency Services:

Humboldt County is powered up and back in business! Please keep an eye out for a survey that will be posted on the county website and linked here. We would like to hear from the community about how the power outage affected your family and/or business, and how we can improve preparedness and communication efforts.

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by Kimberly Wear



McGuire at Town Hall: Legislature 'Hyper-Focused' on Holding PG&E Accountable

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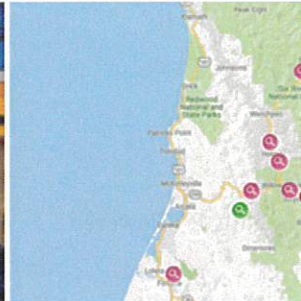
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What will the next heavy winds bring? Assessing the great power shut-off of 2019



A sign at Mary's Pizza Shack informs customers the restaurant is closed because of a Pacific Gas & Electric power shutdown in Sonoma, Calif., on Wednesday. (Christopher Chung / Associated Press)

By MAURA DOLAN, TARYN LUNA, COLLEEN SHALBY, SAMMY ROTH

OCT. 15, 2019
3 AM



SAN FRANCISCO — Less than a week after utilities shut off power to hundreds of thousands of customers up and down California, experts and regulators are beginning to assess what went wrong and what the future portends.

Pacific Gas & Electric cut power to more than 700,000 customers in 34 counties early Wednesday because of high winds. Some households were without electricity for 72 hours, a spokesman said. Southern California Edison shut off electricity to more than 24,000 customers, also starting Wednesday.

The biggest failure, experts and customers alike said, was communication. Residents complained they did not receive adequate notice of the shutdown or no notice at all and could not get on the utilities' websites.

Lessons learned from the shutdowns are critical because more will take place, experts said.

"I suspect for the next few years these are going to occur," said Severin Borenstein, faculty director of UC Berkeley's Energy Institute. "No one involved in this thing thinks it was a one-time event."

The California Public Utilities Commission on Monday ordered PG&E to take immediate corrective actions, and Gov. Gavin Newsom called on the utility to give residential customers who lost power \$100 rebates.

Commission President Marybel Batjer told PG&E it must try to restore power within 12 hours in the future, reduce the size of outages, develop systems to ensure call centers and the website are accessible and develop a "communication structure" with counties and tribal governments so they can respond to emergencies.

"Failures in execution, combined with the magnitude of this ... event, created an unacceptable situation that should never be repeated," Batjer said.

After Newsom's request and the commission's letter, Bill Johnson, PG&E's chief executive, said the utility looked forward to learning how it could improve but called the power shut-off "the right decision."

PG&E spokesman Jeff Smith said the utility cannot determine whether rebates should be given until the utilities commission evaluates the shutdown. He also said PG&E could not rule out more shutdowns later this fall.

Some experts said utilities should not have unilateral power for deciding when to shut off power. Utilities have "too much incentive" to cut power because they bear full liability if their equipment sparks a blaze, Borenstein said.

During a shutdown, the risk shifts. "We bear the cost," he said.

He said the state should create some sort of committee that includes public safety officials, elected officials, utilities and the Public Utilities Commission to make power shut-off calls in the future.

Utilities have sparked fires for decades, but they are now more destructive because of droughts produced by climate change and the movement of people into more remote, highly vegetated regions, experts said.

Southern California Edison's customers complained the utility failed to give them adequate warning.

They hit the utility with questions about the timing, criticism over lack of immediate notice and outrage over spoiled food, stress-related health effects and fears that trapped cars beneath electric garage doors would leave people stranded in the event of a fire.

"We strive to keep the customer informed always, but we may not be able to depending on circumstances," said Edison spokesman Robert Villegas.

UC Berkeley professor Alexandra von Meier, an expert on energy grids, said utilities need to give customers adequate notice to prepare for shutdowns but must weigh that against the fact that weather forecasts are less accurate days in advance.

"The bottom line is no one should be in a situation where they really need to fear the power going out," she said. "We heard from medical patients with essential needs powered by electricity" who were caught off-guard when the electricity went out. They should be provided with backup power, von Meier said.

Janice Bell, a Chatsworth resident who has multiple sclerosis, lost power Thursday morning. At 4:30 a.m. Friday she heard sirens go past her house as a sheriff instructed people to evacuate because a fire had exploded in Porter Ranch, just two miles away.

But Bell's car was trapped inside her garage, beneath an electric door, and she could not open it.

After two hours of waiting, she flagged down a neighbor who helped her open the garage door and she drove to her office in Woodland Hills.

Bell is part of Edison's Medical Baseline program, which offers financial assistance for those who rely on medical equipment. But she said she didn't receive any advance notice of the power outage through the program. To add further complication, Bell said that Edison's website was down for two days.

"This was the opposite of responsible," Bell said. "What about people like me? I live alone. What if the fire was in my backyard? It was two miles away and the winds were blowing 60 mph."

Villegas said SoCal Edison's critical care customer program offers people who need further assistance advance warning for outages. But it's unclear whether most customers in need of such service are aware that the program is available, or if the warning time is enough.

Curtis Child, legislative director of Disability Rights California, said these decisions are left to utility companies without any official direction of how to mitigate the effect on people with disabilities. The standard 48-hour warning is not always enough time for people with disabilities to prepare for backup services, such as alternative respirators or physical assistance, he said.

State Sen. Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg) said the state needs to force PG&E to speed up efforts to harden its equipment, perform necessary vegetation management and modernize its grid in high-hazard wildfire zones — work anticipated to take a decade to complete.

He and other lawmakers hope to introduce legislation early next year to address several problems related to shut-offs. It could include setting criteria that utilities must meet before flipping off the lights and requiring companies to develop accurate lists of medically fragile patients.

“You’d think the largest electricity utility in America could do better, but it’s obvious that they can’t,” he said.

Rooftop solar panels paired with batteries are one of the most straightforward strategies for coping with a future of fire-driven power outages, experts said. But they noted that investor-owned utilities such as Edison and PG&E don’t have much motivation to push solar-plus-storage as a solution for their customers.

For-profit electric utilities have traditionally seen “behind-the-meter” solar panels as a threat to their bottom line, and have [fought to limit financial incentive](#) programs for rooftop systems, arguing that those incentives harm customers unable to afford solar power.

“The utilities will oppose accelerating the deployment of behind-the-meter solar and batteries, even in areas that are subject to the shut-offs, because it’s just so diametrically opposed to their business model,” said Bill Powers, a San Diego electrical engineering consultant and consumer advocate.

Joe Eto, a staff scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, said ratepayers may be asked to bear the costs of improving PG&E’s grid.

It is impossible to know whether PG&E’s decision to cut electricity avoided a wildfire, but the utility reported it found 50 instances of equipment damaged by wind, including downed power lines.

“To the extent they avoided another catastrophic wildfire, that seems like something that is very important,” Eto said.

Dolan reported from San Francisco, Luna from Sacramento and Shalby and Roth from Los Angeles.

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Maura Dolan is the California-based legal affairs writer for the Los Angeles Times. She covers the California Supreme Court and the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. A California native, she graduated from UC Berkeley and has worked in Washington and Los Angeles for The Times. She is now based in San Francisco.



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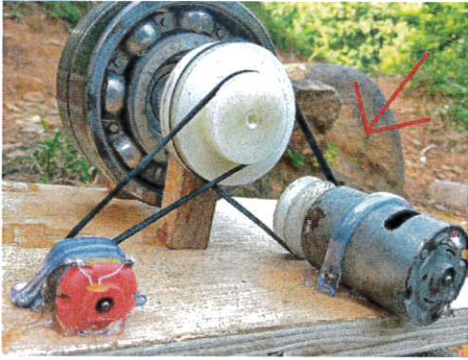
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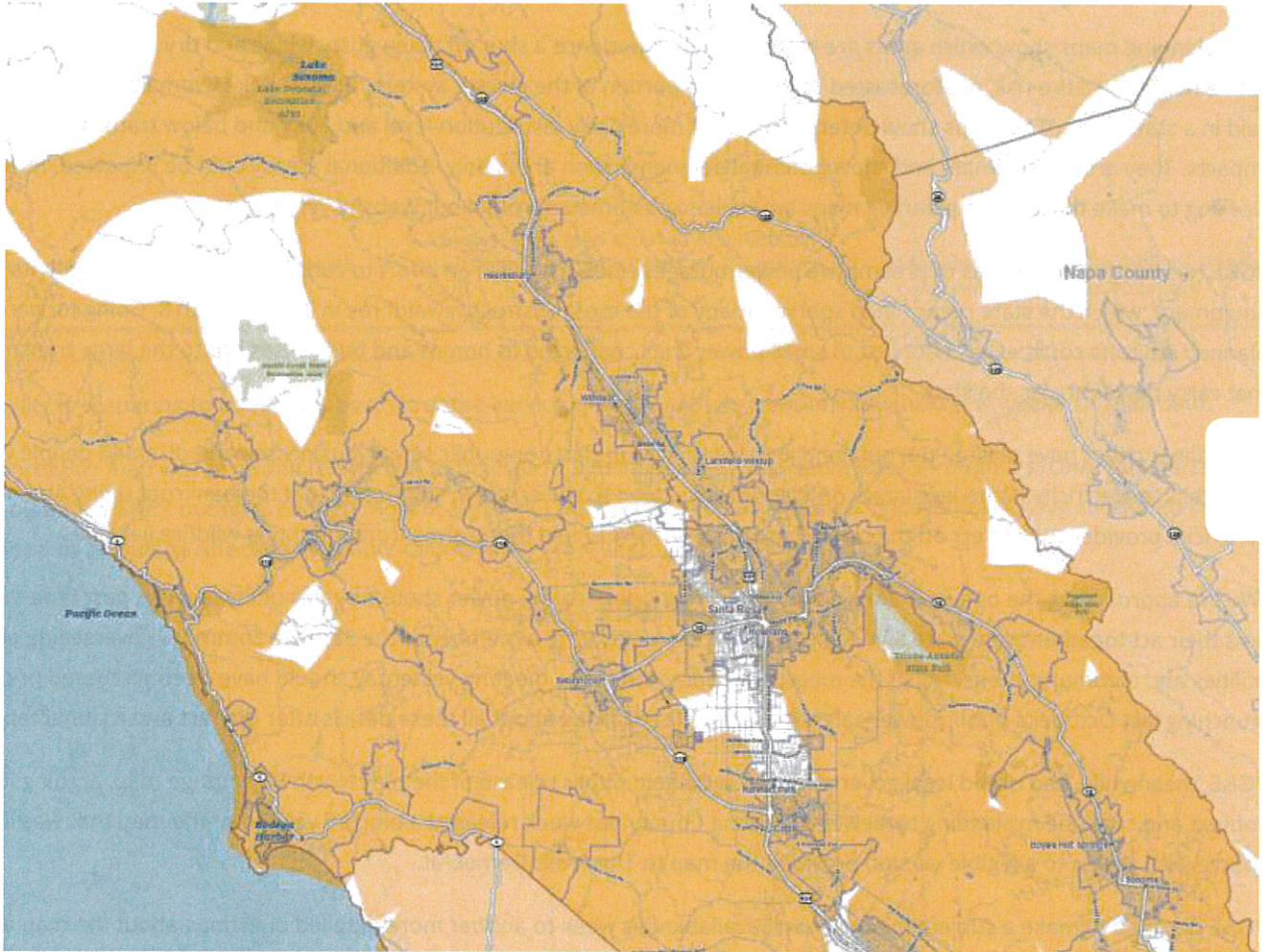
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PG&E map sheds light on planned power outages in Sonoma County



SLIDE 1 OF 3

PG&E could shut off power for several days to reduce fire risk this summer and fall. This map shows the areas that could be affected by the planned outages. (PG&E)



WILL SCHMITT

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT | August 15, 2019

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A majority of Sonoma County's cities and much of the surrounding North Bay could be affected under the wide-scale planned power outages that PG&E has signaled it intends to use to reduce the risk of its equipment sparking devastating wildfires, according to a map the utility company provided earlier this month to local government officials.

The map, obtained this week by The Press Democrat, illustrates the unprecedented scope of fallout for local electricity customers, showing areas that are more likely to have their power cut during periods of hot, dry, windy weather that can give rise to catastrophic fires.

The map's orange "affected areas" cover all of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Sebastopol and Windsor. Though PG&E has said that any of its 5.4 million customers in Northern and Central California could be affected by planned outages, swaths of Santa

If there is a power outage: What to expect from The Press Democrat

A prolonged, widespread outage, however, could have the potential to be very disruptive, officials acknowledged, posing problems ranging from cellphone service to storage of food.

"This is a significant new challenge," Chris Godley, Sonoma County's emergency management director said last week. "It's been a generation since we've seen large-scale power outages in Sonoma County."

PG&E has said it intends to provide advance notice to its customers and the public before cutting power, and Contreras said the utility also will provide "maps of impacted areas in a variety of formats."

"We've always said that while customers in high fire-threat areas are more likely to be affected, any customer could have their power shut off because the energy system relies on power lines working together to provide electricity across cities, counties and regions," she said. "The specific area and number of affected customers will depend on forecasted weather conditions and which circuits PG&E needs to turn off for public safety."

Amid the scorching heat this week, the Petaluma Fire Department highlighted the potential for such outages and called on residents to be prepared.

"PG&E may cut power to all of Petaluma this summer and fall for several days," the fire department wrote in an announcement about the opening of cooling center in town. "ATM machines won't work, gas stations won't be able to pump gas, traffic signals will be out, garage doors will need to be opened manually..... Are you ready?"

Staff Writer Alexandria Bordas contributed to this report. You can reach Staff Writer Will Schmitt at 707-521-5207 or will.schmitt@pressdemocrat.com. On Twitter @wsreports.

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PG&E power outage brings lines for gas, batteries, groceries and generators



PG&E power outage brings lines for gas and demand for portable generators (Justin Sullivan / Getty Images)

By TARYN LUNA, JAMES F. PELTZ, MAURA DOLAN

OCT. 9, 2019
2:11 PM



[The massive blackouts](#) imposed across Northern California on Wednesday led to a run on gasoline, portable generators and other supplies while retailers struggled to serve customers.

Millions were expected to lose power as Pacific Gas & Electric [shut down service](#) in a bid to avoid wind-driven fires caused by downed power lines.

Angie Sheets of El Dorado Hills outside Sacramento noticed that generators were flying off the shelves at the local Costco as she shopped for groceries earlier in the week.

Considering the nearly \$1,000 worth of food she planned to purchase and the imminent power outage, Sheets said she called her husband to talk about buying a generator for their home.

"By the time I had done that, the last big generator was gone off the shelves," she said. Her husband, a law enforcement officer, later found a generator at a Costco in Rancho Cordova.

On Tuesday night, they filled their bathtubs in case water service was disrupted.

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Oct. 11, 2019

Sheets said she went to Safeway to pick up more bottled water and saw a line of cars snaked around a gas station parking lot.

"In this particular area they did say we could lose power for up to seven days," Sheets said. "I think that's what's making people on edge, the fear of the unknown and wanting to be safe for your family."

Denise Boldway, owner of Blossoms Florist in Eureka in Humboldt County, said she was getting some power via an extension cord connected to a generator in her RV.

But the generator isn't strong enough to keep powering the cooler that holds her roses, dahlias and other flowers needing refrigeration, she said.

"I take what I need out of the cooler and close the door," Boldway said in a telephone interview. "I'm probably going to lose some flowers."

PG&E's isn't expected to turn the power back on til Thursday afternoon, she said.

In Eureka, "it's pretty much pandemonium here," she said. "You couldn't get gas last night and there was a two-hour wait at the grocery store to check out."

Stoptlights were out Wednesday, and traffic was backed up in every direction, she said.

"Still, "I fully support PG&E in this," Boldway said. "The winds are 30 to 45 mph today and you don't even want to walk outside. I feel like it's totally justified."

In the East Bay, as residents waited for the power cuts to begin, many stores had run out of batteries for flashlights.

Raley's, a grocery chain based in West Sacramento, said nine of its stores affected by the blackouts remained open, but refrigerated and frozen goods were not available at its stores in Red Bluff, Chico and Jackson and at its Bel-Air store in Auburn.

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PG&E slowly shuts off power to 800,000 customers in California




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Deborah Arnett of Santa Rosa pumps gas into her SUV, as she and other motorists top off their gas tanks in preparation for the PG&E outage at the Safeway gas station in Santa Rosa on Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2019. (Alvin Jornada / The Press Democrat)



GUY KOVNER, WILL SCHMITT AND CHANTELE LEE

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT | October 8, 2019

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In a historic move to avert another fiery disaster, PG&E is turning off power to as many as 800,000 customers in Northern and Central California Wednesday, prompting residents, schools, businesses and local officials to make hurried plans to cope without electricity possibly for several days.

With wind speeds expected between 40 mph and 70 mph over sunbaked land Wednesday and Thursday, the state's largest utility opted to preemptively cut power in parts of 34 counties, including Sonoma, Marin, Napa, Mendocino and Lake counties in the North Bay.

PG&E, driven into bankruptcy in January facing about \$30 billion in liabilities for wildfires in 2017 and 2018, adopted temporary power shut-offs as a key part of its fire prevention plan. A majority of those catastrophic blazes two years ago as well as the Camp fire in 2018 were attributed to the company's equipment.

About 66,000 of the utility's Sonoma County customers will lose power, which equates to about 262,000 residents. Of that total, there will be 24,000 Santa Rosa customers affected, including an estimated 72,000 residents, a city official said Tuesday.

With many PG&E customer accounts serving more than one person, the planned outage could affect well over 1 million people. The utility plans to cut power in two stages, the first early Wednesday morning before sunrise and the second between noon and 5 p.m.

Much of eastern and northern Sonoma County, including parts of Santa Rosa, Sonoma, Petaluma, Rohnert Park, Windsor, Healdsburg, Cotati and Cloverdale, are expected to be included in the shutdown, according to PG&E maps.

The utility is expected to start restoring power Thursday around noon and it could take five days to complete that process. Densely populated parts of the county could have power restored within 48 hours.

For thousands of residents, Tuesday's news of the impending power outage was an eerie reminder of the catastrophe that struck exactly two years ago, when the 2017 North Bay wildfires killed 40 people and destroyed nearly 6,200 homes.

Christine Ratliff, a leader of a Larkfield neighborhood's campaign to replant the trees lost to the Tubbs conflagration, spoke with an almost matter-of-fact voice of the expected widespread power shut-off.

"You hear that this is going to happen, and you look outside and say, 'It's so nice; it's not even windy.' You think, 'Are they just overreacting?'" Ratliff said. "I would hope they wouldn't be doing this unless it was absolutely necessary, especially such a large area."

The planned outage will be the largest in Northern California's history, said Chris Godley, Sonoma County's emergency management director.

"Today, we need to step up," Godley said Tuesday. "Check on your neighbors. Step out of your comfort zone. Go find somebody and make sure they're going to be OK. Government can only do so much. The real resource (is) our people."

Ratliff's kindergartner will be off school Wednesday, one of the thousands of local students who won't go to class because many schools in the Santa Rosa area, Sonoma Valley, Cloverdale and Rohnert Park will be closed. Also, Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State University canceled classes.

Beverly Nystrom, 85, is living in a Santa Rosa condominium while her new Larkfield home is built.

[PG&E potential outage map](#)

Schools close across county

All Santa Rosa Junior College campuses will be closed Wednesday and all activities and classes, including online classes, are canceled. Sonoma State University also canceled classes.

Seven Santa Rosa City Schools will be closed Wednesday because of the shut-off and will likely remain closed Thursday and Friday: Maria Carrillo High, Rincon Valley Middle, Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School, Santa Rosa Middle, Hidden Valley Elementary, Proctor Terrace Elementary and Lewis Education Center. All after-school programs, such as athletics and childcare, will also be canceled at these schools. Other schools within the district may also be closed Thursday and Friday, depending on the duration of the outage and possible increase in the affected area.

Alexander Valley — closed Wednesday and Thursday.

Bennett Valley Union School District, Cloverdale Unified School District, Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified School District, Kashia School District, Geyserville Unified School District, Old Adobe Union District's Sonoma Mountain and Old Adobe charter schools — closed Wednesday. Mark West Union School District and Windsor Unified School District — closed Wednesday with a projected closure Thursday.

Sonoma Valley Unified School District — closed Wednesday through Friday.
Waugh School District – closed Wednesday with non-student days Thursday and Friday.
Sonoma County Office of Education – Skylane campus closed Wednesday. Special education classes at school district sites will be closed along with district closures.
Parents are encouraged to go to their school or district website for the latest information.

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Nystrom wasn't aware she might lose power at her condo, but didn't seem too concerned. A self-described farm girl, she had no electricity at home until she graduated from high school.

"So I know have to survive," she said, before adding about PG&E: "They still need to have a better solution."

As many of its anxious utility customers scrambled Tuesday to fill up their cars with gas, buy nonperishable foods at supermarkets, get cash from ATMs and otherwise prepare for the outage, PG&E officials sought to reassure them of the need for the shut-off.

Michael Lewis, PG&E's senior vice president of electric operations, said in a statement that the "safety of our customers and the communities we serve is our most important responsibility, which is why PG&E has decided to turn power off to customers during this widespread, severe wind event.

"We understand the effects this event will have on our customers and appreciate the public's patience as we do what is necessary to keep our communities safe and reduce the risk of wildfire," Lewis said.

In Santa Rosa, PG&E is offering restrooms, bottled water and a recharging area for electronic devices at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave.

Meanwhile, Godley said local hospitals and health care systems will prioritize essential functions, with plans to curtail all elective surgeries and normal office visits.

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The power shut-offs will force the closure of three Santa Rosa Community Health clinics, including two of the nonprofit's largest clinics: the Vista Campus, 3569 Round Barn Circle; the Dutton Campus, 1300 North Dutton Ave.; and the Brookwood Campus, 983 Sonoma Ave.

The three campuses decided to close because they only have enough backup power for refrigerators where vaccines and other drugs are kept.

Godley said the Sonoma County Jail will perform essential functions using generators. If the shut-off goes beyond 48 to 72 hours, inmates may have to be relocated.

County officials are concerned about 911 phone access for residents, particularly those who don't have landline phones, which are more resilient during power outages.

"After four, six, eight hours, cell towers will begin to drop off," Godley said. "Only old-fashioned phones will work, and less than 2% of the county has those phones."

He compared the anticipated effects of PG&E's outage with a Southern California outage in 2011 and the power grid failures of the 1970s.

"People will be inconvenienced immediately. Alarm clocks won't go off," Godley said. "Maybe the lights don't come on, as well."

Most grocery stores "might keep the lights on, but the freezer aisle's going to be a pretty wet mess," he said.

The Safeway store and gas station on Fourth Street in Santa Rosa were crowded Tuesday afternoon, with lines at the ATM and gasoline pumps, and the adjacent CVS drugstore was out of ice.

Karen Varner of Santa Rosa, who has to travel for her job, was waiting to fill her tank in preparation for the blackout.

"Of course it worries me," she said. "(But) I think the community has done a great job preparing us, letting us know that this is going to happen."

Liz Byers of Santa was stocking up on emergency supplies, including batteries at the CVS store. She called the shut-off a "hardship," especially for people without generators or unable to work without power.

"I know it's preventative, but it does trigger a lot of anxiety," she said. "We all remember the fires, and we question our preparedness."

Santa Rosan Mark Walters said he thought the whole thing could have been avoided.

"I think this is another burden that PG&E is placing on its customers and communities," he said.

Major cellphone service providers have said they will use backup power sources, including batteries and generators, to keep their North Bay cell sites operating. However, their ability to service cell towers largely relies on accessing the sites, which could be compromised by inclement weather or emergency conditions.

Sonoma County Transit and the Santa Rosa CityBus will continue to operate on their regular schedules Wednesday, but advised customers that trips may be delayed because of traffic signal outages throughout the county.

SMART plans to continue its regular weekday train schedule, including stops at stations without power, but said passengers should expect delays.

Although Charles M. Schulz-Sonoma County Airport falls within PG&E's planned outage area, a generator will power main operations and commercial flights are expected to continue as scheduled. Airport security will shift to manual screenings so passengers are encouraged to arrive to the airport early for their flights.

Individual airlines may choose to cancel flights, county spokeswoman Maggie Fleming said, advising passengers to check with their carriers before heading to the local airport Wednesday.

Golden Gate Ferry, Golden Gate Transit and the Golden Gate Bridge are expected to operate public transit services Wednesday with generators.

In 2018, PG&E started using planned power shut-offs, turning off distribution lines in an attempt to prevent wildfires. This year the utility significantly expanded the fire-prevention tactic to include powering down the larger transmission lines that carry electricity across the state.

Each time PG&E conducts a planned outage, it must file a report with the California Public Utilities Commission.

California investor-owned utilities like PG&E can use preemptive power cuts if necessary to help ensure the safety of their customers, California Public Utilities Commission spokeswoman Terrie Prosper said.

"The utilities can exercise this authority during severe wildfire threat conditions as a preventative measure of last resort," Prosper said.

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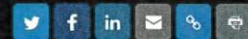
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8 Common Causes of Outages



June 27, 2016



The reasons for outages can vary, and can affect the length of time it takes to restore service back to your home. Here are some of the most common causes of outages.

- 1. Storms:** Wind, heat, ice and snow are the most common causes of widespread power outages.
- 2. Trees:** During high winds, or trimming by an untrained professional, limbs can come into contact with power lines and cause interruptions. You can always request a tree trimming service on SCE's website.
- 3. Vehicles:** A vehicle collision with a utility pole can cause a power outage.
- 4. Earthquakes:** Quakes of all sizes can damage electrical facilities and power lines.
- 5. Animals:** Although we place barriers between wildlife and electricity equipment, squirrels, snakes and other small animals may still cause a short circuit.
- 6. Lightning:** When lightning strikes electrical equipment, transmission towers, wires and poles, outages can occur.
- 7. Excavation digging:** Sometimes, underground cables are disturbed by digging. It's important to call 811 before any gardening or digging project.
- 8. High Power Demand:** During heat waves and other times of unusually high power demand, overburdened electric cables, transformers, and other electrical equipment can melt and fail.

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PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff

Shutting off power for safety...

What is PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff Program?

If extreme fire danger conditions threaten a portion of the electric system serving Santa Rosa, PG&E may proactively turn off electricity in the interest of public safety. This is called a Public Safety Power Shutoff.

- PG&E will only proactively turn off the power to help reduce the likelihood of an ignition when extreme fire danger conditions are forecasted.
- Customers in high fire-threat areas are more likely to be affected, but any of PG&E's electric customers, including residents who live in the City of Santa Rosa, could have their power shut off if their community relies upon a line that passes through a high fire-threat area.

How will I be notified in the event of a PSPS?

PG&E's goal, dependent on weather, is to send outage alerts to customers at 48 hours, 24 hours and just prior to shutting off power. They will notify people through:

- **Automated Calls**
- **Texts**
- **Emails**

Make sure PG&E has your current contact information so that you can be notified in the event of a PSPS.

TIMING OF NOTIFICATIONS (when possible)

- **~48 HOURS** before power is turned off
- **~24 HOURS** before power is turned off
- **JUST BEFORE** power is turned off
- **DURING THE PUBLIC SAFETY OUTAGE**
- **ONCE POWER HAS BEEN RESTORED**

When will power be restored?

After the extreme weather has passed and it is safe to do so, PG&E crews will work to inspect the lines and safely restore power. PG&E expects to be able to visually inspect thy system for damage and restore power to most customers within 24 to 48 hours after the extreme weather has passed. Because extreme weather can last several hours or days, residents should be prepared for power outages that could last up to five days.

What weather conditions warrant a Public Safety Power Shutoff?

While no single factor will drive a Public Safety Power Shutoff, some factors include:



A RED FLAG WARNING

declared by the National Weather Service



LOW HUMIDITY LEVELS

generally 20% and below



FORECASTED SUSTAINED WINDS GENERALLY ABOVE 25 MPH AND WIND GUSTS IN EXCESS OF APPROXIMATELY 45 MPH,

depending on location and site-specific conditions such as temperature, terrain and local climate



CONDITION OF DRY FUEL

on the ground and live vegetation (moisture content)



ON-THE-GROUND, REAL-TIME OBSERVATIONS

from PG&E's WSOC and field observations from PG&E crews


How can I prepare NOW for a 5-day PSPS power outage?

- It's important to make sure you'll receive notifications from PG&E if a PSPS occurs. Update your contact information with PG&E at pge.com/mywildfirealerts or call 1-866-743-6589.
- Stock up on supplies to last a week and refresh them at least once a year. Put them in waterproof containers, and store them in an easy to reach place. **Here's what you'll need:**

Food and Water

-  **Drinking water**
1 gallon of water per person, per day
-  **Tools and utensils**
Non-electric can opener and forks, spoons and knives
-  **Food**
Nonperishable and easy to prepare without power
-  **Baby/pet food**
Be sure to include food for all members of your household





Equipment

-  **Flashlights**
Do not use candles
-  **Radio**
Battery-powered or a hand-crank weather radio
-  **Extra batteries**
Include two extra sets
-  **Mobile phone**
Include a portable charger

Health and Personal Supplies

-  **Basic first aid kit**
From antibiotic ointments and bandages to cold packs and more
-  **Blankets and clothing**
Blankets, warm clothes, sturdy shoes and heavy gloves
-  **Activities for children**
Toys, books, games and cards
-  **Important documents**
Copies of IDs, medical records, pet vaccinations and family photos

Health and Personal Supplies

-  **Medication and eyeglasses**
Prescription and non-prescription
-  **Toiletries**
Soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, etc.
-  **Cash and credit cards**
If possible, put aside at least \$100
-  **Other useful items**
Paper towels, trash bags, multipurpose tool that includes a knife

Where can I learn more ?

More information about PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff program is available at: pge.com/wildfiresafety or prepareforpowerdown.com.



A PG&E truck outside the Embarcadero substation. (Kevin N. Hume/S.F. Examiner)

Updates: Second wave of PG&E shutdowns rolls into Bay Area; thousands more powerless

Follow along as the planned outages unfold around Northern California

BAY CITY NEWS / EXAMINER STAFF / Oct. 9, 2019 1:30 a.m. / NEWS

Thursday, 12:14 p.m. PG&E officials say all shutoffs are completed, but total restoration of power in all areas could take days. [See related story for latest updates.](#)

Thursday, 1:47 a.m.: PG&E has continued the second phase of its Public Safety Planned Shutoff late Wednesday night and early Thursday morning, with locales in and near the Peninsula, Berkeley, Oakland, San Jose, Santa Clara Valley and the Santa Cruz area losing power.

The second phase of PG&E's shutdown and de-energizing started around 10:15 p.m. Wednesday, PG&E officials said.

According to PG&E's outage website, the new round of outages further south in the San Francisco Bay Area began around 10:45 p.m., with customers in locations affected as far north as Pinole (2,372 customers), as far west as Half Moon Bay (12,491), as far south as Morgan Hill (6,459) and communities

near Watsonville (La Selva Beach – 626) and as far east as an area just south of Livermore (63 customers) and Walnut Creek (2,643) as of 1:30 a.m.

Among the bigger cities and communities affected in the immediate Bay Area by the shutdown: Berkeley (3,537 customers), Oakland (13,365), San Jose (4,295) and Castro Valley (6,144). San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo tweeted early Thursday that approximately 15,000 homes in Almaden and Evergreen neighborhoods were without power.

South of the Bay in the Santa Cruz County area, the major locales of Santa Cruz (3,793 customers), Scotts Valley (8,694) and Aptos (7,356) have also seen major outages during the second phase.

PG&E officials haven't provided an estimate to when power will be restored and have said it could be out for several days.

Solar customers are also affected by the shutdown.

"When PG&E restores power, rooftop solar systems should re-engage automatically," PG&E officials said in a statement. "Solar systems cannot be powered off a generator as the two technologies do not work together. Customers who have a home battery system paired with their solar system may generally have up to two hours of backup power, depending on the size of their battery."

PG&E officials said the company doesn't reimburse customers for losses during shutdown events "as power will be shut off for safety when gusty winds and dry conditions, combined with a heightened fire risk, threaten a portion of the electric system."

Despite the fact that reimbursement is unlikely, PG&E officials said customers can file claims that are reviewed on a case-by-case basis at any time at https://www.pge.com/en_US/residential/customer-service/help/claims/claims.page.

The University of California at Berkeley and Evergreen Valley College in the southeast San Jose foothills confirmed they will be closed on Thursday.

10:37 p.m.: PG&E officials said they have initiated the power shutoff that was expected Wednesday night in the East Bay, South Bay and Santa Cruz and southern Coastsides area, including Half Moon Bay.

As of 10:37 p.m., the shutoffs for those areas had begun and will continue through midnight, PG&E spokesperson Karly Hernandez said.

9:50 p.m.: PG&E launched a new website Wednesday night amid the continuing power shutoff. The website is meant to give customers a chance to find out if they will be affected by the planned outage Wednesday. It allows customers to type in their address for information about whether their power will be shut off. However, in some cases, the answer brings only more uncertainty, saying, for example, "PG&E may need to turn off power for public safety at this address." PG&E's main website had problems Tuesday and Wednesday as customers tried to find out whether the preemptive shutdown was going to affect them.

7:37 p.m.: School districts in both Oakland and Contra Costa county announced school closings for Thursday in due to the Public Safety Power Shutoff that's expected to begin as early as 8 p.m. on Wednesday in the East Bay.

Oakland Unified School District officials said they will close nine schools on Thursday.

Only one school, Skyline High School in the Oakland hills, was closed on Wednesday and will remain closed on Thursday.

The other schools that will be closed on Thursday are Fruitvale, Grass Valley, Montclair, Sequoia and Howard elementary schools, Elmhurst United Middle School, Ruidsdale Continuation High School and Sojourner Truth Independent Study.

The school district's 74 other schools will remain open on Thursday.

Pinole Valley High School and Ellerhorst Elementary School, in Pinole, Madera Elementary School in El Cerrito, Olinda Elementary School in Richmond and Kensington Elementary School in the Kensington area of unincorporated Contra Costa County will all be closed on Thursday.

Related: Why San Francisco remains spared

6:55 p.m: Power may be shut down in the East Bay and South Bay anywhere between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. tonight, including Alameda, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties, according to PG&E officials.

PG&E warned that its power lines were close to vegetation that could spur wildfires in high-wind conditions expected to swell through the Bay Area tonight.

Some of that much-warned-of wind did not materialize in some Bay Area counties Wednesday, causing Bay Area residents to cry foul. But in a Wednesday evening press conference, PG&E meteorologist Scott Strenfel said those winds were just late.

"It's a pretty serious situation," he said, because a windstorm via Diablo Winds is on the way.

"Don't get complacent, because the strongest winds are coming tonight," Strenfel said.

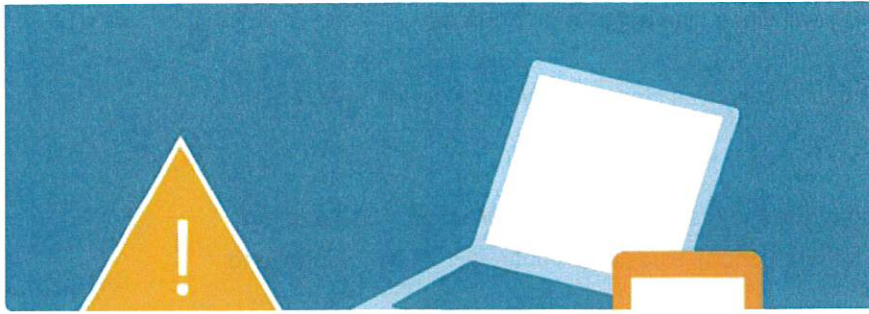
PG&E also said it would launch a new website with an interactive map for Bay Area residents to check where power outages would occur. PG&E's original interactive map and website crashed earlier Wednesday due to the crushing loads of web traffic.



PG&E

@PGE4Me

We are experiencing a high volume of traffic to our website & understand your frustration w/ the delay of accessing #PSPS related web pages. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience. Our team is working as quickly as possible to restore access.



87 11:12 AM - Oct 9, 2019

240 people are talking about this

Still, the weather has remained somewhat elusive. Though PG&E shut off power for some 513,000 customers early Wednesday in its Phase 1 de-energization plan, its Phase 2 de-energization planned for noon was postponed until later tonight, leaving East and South Bay communities in limbo.

"If the weather doesn't materialize as expected we have the opportunity to abort," Strenfel said, but would need to be iron-clad certain.

PG&E officials are expected to make that call by 9 p.m. at the latest.

Importantly, communities not along the planned shutdown areas may still lose power, as PG&E grids overlap and intersect, utility officials said.

While a total 800,000 customers may see power shut down from the fear of severe winds, PG&E did restore power for some 50,000 customers in the Sierra Foothills that were originally expected to lose power for days, said Sumeet Singh, vice president of asset and risk management at PG&E.

Note, a PG&E customer is analogous to a household, which may contain many people, meaning more than a million people may be affected by this week's power outages.

The utility was able to restore that power by isolating transmission lines from high-risk lines that may be susceptible to causing wildfires. That utility aims to do the same for Humboldt county Wednesday night.

"Due to the large number of outages and potential unknown to the system, it could take several days to fully restore power," Singh warned.

PG&E owns roughly 25,200 circuit miles of overhead distribution line and 5,563 circuit miles of overhead transmission line in wildfire risk areas, according to the utility's records.

PG&E is "on track" to clear roughly 150 miles of overhead transmission lines of vegetation that might pose a wildfire risk this year, Singh said.

4:45 p.m.: Power in Santa Cruz County is expected to be shut off sometime between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. as part of PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff, Watsonville police said.

3:59 p.m.: PG&E opened a "community resource center" with electricity and creature comforts in the parking lot of Merritt College in the Oakland hills Wednesday in an attempt to offset the impact of the Public Safety Power Shutoff, now scheduled to go into effect in the area at 8 p.m.

A large tent was set up to provide shade, air conditioning and bottled water. Inside, there are chairs and tables with electrical outlets so people can charge their phones and devices.

Nany Safford, a resident of the Crown Ridge or Ridgement neighborhood in Oakland, shares information with her neighbors by email, and came to the center to get the latest information about the outage.

Safford is unhappy with the phone number and website PG&E set up to disseminate information about the outage and said the utility has not been effective at getting the word out.

"Their map is not accurate," Safford said.

She's also upset with PG&E for what appears to be a very chaotic handling of a potentially dangerous situation caused by inadequately maintained equipment.

"I understand the need for caution, but they also need to be more proactive in recognizing the impacts of their actions," Safford said.

People across the state have voiced frustration after going to PG&E's website for information about the outage, only to find that it was not functioning properly.

U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Oakland, posted a Constituents Guide on Power Outages in the East Bay on Wednesday afternoon advising affected residents to consider staying with a friend where the power is still on and prepare for any health needs involving refrigeration of medication and power for medical devices.

For more information from Lee's office on how to get through the shutoff, people can go to <https://bit.ly/2MqJkgw>.

3:02 p.m.: PG&E has placed barricades around the entrance to its San Francisco headquarters on Beale Street. When asked about the barricades and whether the utility had received threats, a spokesperson for the company said "our most important responsibility is the safety of our customers and the communities we serve and our employees."

"With regard to the barricades in front of our San Francisco offices, it is not uncommon for us to do this to help our employees safely get where they need to go," said PG&E spokesperson Kristi Jourdan in a statement. "Our employees are working hard to ensure that our system operates safely and that power will be restored quickly after the weather passes."



Kevin N. Hume
@KevinNHume

Plastic barricades in place outside PG&E headquarters in downtown SF @sfexaminer



1 2:46 PM - Oct 9, 2019

[See Kevin N. Hume's other Tweets](#)

Earlier Wednesday, the California Highway Patrol told multiple news outlets that a PG&E truck had possibly been shot at in Colusa County. The incident happened at around 8 p.m. Tuesday.

1 p.m.: PG&E's planned Public Safety Power Shutoff, which was expected to impact hundreds of thousands of people across the Bay Area around noon on Wednesday, has been delayed until 8 p.m. in some areas, according to government agencies in the East Bay.

The City of Lafayette and the Town of Moraga have both issued statements on www.nixle.com indicating that PG&E officials have delayed the power outage for about eight hours due to weather conditions, since the anticipated high winds that prompted the National Weather Service to issue a Red Flag Warning have not yet occurred.

The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District confirmed that information, adding that fire danger remains high and urging area residents to be "ultra cautious in ALL outdoor activities & report any fires to 911 immediately," in a tweet around 1 p.m.

9 a.m.: With PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff underway Wednesday morning, for the second straight day the utility's website is not accessible for customers to find out the latest information about the shutoff.

For most of Tuesday, PGE's website was down, and the utility had to post maps on Twitter of the affected portions of all 34 counties across the state that would be losing power. The site remained down as of shortly after 7 a.m. Wednesday.

PG&E spokeswoman Kristi Jourdan said their teams had doubled the database capacity on the website earlier this week in anticipation for increased traffic, but that there is seven or eight times the normal traffic on the site.

Jourdan said PG&E is continuing to work to increase server capacity and the number of customer requests the site can handle, as well as developing other ways to communicate outage information.

“Our teams are fully engaged and working on multiple fronts to address the issue as quickly as we can,” she said.

According to PG&E, the shutoff is happening in three phases, with power having been shut off in the early morning hours Wednesday to 513,000 customers across 22 counties, including Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma counties.

Around noon, an additional 234,000 customers will lose power in the second phase of the shutoff, including those in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

A third phase of the shutoff is still being considered for the southernmost part of PG&E’s service range.

The decision to turn off power was because of a forecast for dry, hot and windy weather, with peak winds reaching 60-70 mph at higher elevations, according to PG&E.



PG&E crews work to replace telephone poles that were burned by the Camp Fire on Billie Road in the town of Paradise in Butte County on Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018, more than a week after the fire broke out. (Kevin N. Hume/S.F. Examiner)
PG&E workers disassemble broken power lines after the Camp fire ripped through Paradise, Calif., on Nov. 15, 2018. (Joel Angel Juarez/Zuma Press/TNS)

8:30 a.m.: As the first phase of power outages due to PG&E’s Public Safety Power Shutoff starts, the number of customers affected in the San Francisco Bay Area has rapidly increased early Wednesday morning.

What started as 20,000 PG&E customers without power across the region has jumped to several thousand more across several locales, per PG&E’s outage map.

Solano, Sonoma and Napa counties have been hit the hardest so far, with the cities of Fairfield having 17,963 customers powerless and Vacaville 13,665 as of 2:30 a.m. The city of Napa has been hit hard as well, with 19,357 PG&E customers without power as well. Sonoma has 15,925 powerless, St. Helena 6,685 and Calistoga 3,321.

Outages have also spread to Santa Rosa (8,140 customers), Rohnert Park (2,105), Sausalito (2,564) and Tamalpais-Homestead Valley (2,034). Several unincorporated areas in Napa, Marin, Solano and Sonoma counties have also been hit with power outages.

"We understand the effects this event will have on our customers and appreciate the public's patience as we do what is necessary to keep our communities safe and reduce the risk of wildfire," said Michael Lewis, PG&E's senior vice president of Electric Operations, in a statement.

PG&E officials released a statement early Wednesday citing forecasted winds of 60-70 mph at higher elevations from Wednesday morning until Thursday morning for the start of the shutdowns.

According to the National Weather Service, which issued a Red Flag Warning on Tuesday morning from Wednesday morning until 5 a.m. Tuesday, locations above 4,000 feet are the most likely to see wind speeds above 60 Mph.

PG&E officials didn't provide an exact number of total outages, and referred to its website outage map for up-to-date numbers and locations of customers without power.

Phase No. 1 of the shutdown encompasses the shutdown of power to approximately 513,000 customers in several Northern California counties.

Phase No. 2 is expected to start around 12 p.m. Wednesday and is expected to affect 234,000 more PG&E customers, including those in the more immediate Bay Area, including Oakland and San Jose.

PG&E customers impacted by the shutdown can visit PG&E community resource centers starting at 8 a.m. Wednesday. The centers will be equipped with restrooms, bottled water, electronic-device charging and air-conditioned

seating for up to 100 people. The utility company said the centers will only be open during daylight hours.

Here is a list of centers in the Bay Area:

In Napa County: Solano County Fairgrounds at 1001 Fairgrounds Dr.

in Vallejo and the Napa County Fairgrounds at 1601 N. Oak St. in Calistoga.

In Santa Clara County: Avaya Stadium, 1123 Coleman Ave. San Jose.

In Contra Costa County: Bishop Ranch Parking Lot, 2600 Camino Ramon, San Ramon.

In San Mateo County: Pasta Moon Restaurant, 845 Main St., Half Moon Bay.

In Solano County: Mission Church, 6391 Leisure Town Rd., Vacaville.

In Sonoma County: Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa.

In Alameda County: Merritt College, Lot B, Leona St., Oakland.

In Santa Cruz County, Twin Lakes Church, 2701 Cabrillo College Dr., Aptos.

For more information on outages across the region, visit pge.com/psps or [@PGE4ME](https://twitter.com/PGE4ME) on Twitter.

Bay City News



Could a public safety power outage affect you?

Yes. The grid connects us all. If you live anywhere in PG&E's service territory your electricity could be shut off for longer than 48 hours as part of a Public Safety Power Shutoff.

GET READY

CLOSE

PG&E RESIDENTIAL SMALL & MEDIUM BUSINESS LARGE BUSINESS EMERGENCIES SAFETY CONTACT PG&E ENGLISH

YOUR ACCOUNT CUSTOMER SERVICE OUTAGES RATE PLANS SAVE ENERGY & MONEY SOLAR & VEHICLES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

SAFETY > ELECTRIC SAFETY > ELECTRIC GENERATOR SAFETY

Backup power

Power outages can happen at any time

Backup electric power can be a part of any preparedness plan. Find out what you need to know about using backup power.

Generators are not connected to PG&E's grid

Backup electric generators can operate as a stand-alone power source and some require interconnection to PG&E's electric grid. Backup power is typically fueled by solar plus storage, batteries, natural gas, gasoline, propane or diesel fuel.

Ready to go solar? [Learn more about your options](#)



Solar customers, please note: During an electric power outage, your solar system will not function unless designed to work with a battery or standby generator. For more information, call your service provider.

11 Feedback

DETERMINE IF BACKUP POWER IS RIGHT | **CHOOSING THE RIGHT BACKUP POWER** | **USE YOUR BACKUP POWER SAFELY** | **SHOP FOR BACKUP POWER**

Backup power can keep the lights on, help appliances stay running, save perishable food, and power essential equipment and electronics during a power outage.

Generators can be expensive, noisy, and can pose safety hazards. It's important to understand how to safely operate your generator or battery before an emergency occurs. This means doing regular safety checks and being sure you have enough fuel to last a few days.

Please be aware that operating a generator may be subject to Air Quality regulations. To find the air quality regulator serving your area and obtain more information please visit aql.ca.gov/aqp/dislookup/dislookup.asp.

Consider these factors when deciding whether you need a generator.



Energy needs

Do you own certain devices or equipment that need to keep functioning in the event of a loss of power? How crucial is it for you to have power during an extended outage? This is especially important for customers who are dependent on life-support equipment or require special heating or cooling needs for a medical condition.



Noise

Are there community ordinances where you live or work that restrict or limit the decibel level allowance for outdoor equipment?



Cost

Generators can cost thousands of dollars. Take any immediate needs into consideration as you examine which generator option may be the best choice for you.



Are you dependent on electricity for a medical device?

If you rely on electric or battery-dependent medical technologies such as assistive technology, breathing machines, a power wheelchair or scooter, and home oxygen or dialysis, it is critical that you have a plan in place for an extended power outage.

[DOWNLOAD THE PACIFIC ADA CENTER'S EMERGENCY POWER PLANNING FACT SHEET \(PDF, 272 KB\)](#)



Is your facility prepared for a power outage?

Power outages can occur at any time. Ensure that your employees, tenants and customers know what to do during an emergency and that you have plans for backup power.

[DOWNLOAD THE PREPARING YOUR FACILITY FOR POWER OUTAGES CHECKLIST \(PDF, 50 KB\)](#)

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What You Need to Know About Backup Generation

May 2019

Power outages can happen at any time

Backup electric generators can be a part of any preparedness plan. Backup electric generators operate as a stand-alone power source and are not connected to PG&E’s power grid. Generators are typically powered by solar with backup storage, battery, natural gas, gasoline, propane or diesel fuel.

Determining if a generator is right for you

Electric backup generators can keep the lights on, help appliances stay running, save perishable food, and power essential equipment and electronics during a power outage. Generators can also be expensive, noisy, and pose safety hazards. It’s important to understand how to safely operate your generator before an emergency occurs. This means doing regular safety checks and being sure you have enough fuel to last a few days.

Consider these factors when deciding whether you need a generator:



ENERGY NEEDS | Do you own certain devices or equipment that need to keep functioning in the event of a loss of power? How crucial is it for you to have power during an extended outage? This is especially important for customers who are dependent on life-support equipment or require special heating or cooling needs for a medical condition.



NOISE | Are there community ordinances where you live or work that restrict or limit the decibel level allowance for outdoor equipment?



COST | Generators can cost thousands of dollars. Take any immediate needs into consideration as you examine which generator option may be the best choice for you.

Choosing the right generator

If you decide to purchase a generator, explore what kind of generator will work for you.

Factors to consider include:



YOUR ENERGY NEEDS

Generators can produce enough electricity to power your phone and laptop or your whole home. Consider what critical items, appliances and equipment you would need during an outage.



FUEL PREFERENCES

Your preference may be determined by environmental concerns, accessibility, affordability, and available space for secure generator storage. Some fuel types are: gasoline, propane, natural gas, diesel and renewable energy.



INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

No matter what type of generator you have, whether small-battery operated, portable or permanent standby, always consult the owner’s manual for detailed instructions and safety guidelines prior to operation.

Visit pge.com/backupgeneration for more information

Using your generator correctly and safely

If you don't understand how to use your generator, you risk damaging your property, endangering your life and endangering the lives of PG&E crews who may be working on power lines in your community.



FOR YOUR SAFETY: Understand and follow all safety instructions provided by the manufacturer. Never connect any generator to another power source, including PG&E power lines.

Portable generator safety

- Be sure that the power needs of the device (electric load) is supported by your generator and does not exceed the manufacturer's specifications.
- Position your generator where its exhaust can vent safely to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, which can be fatal.
- Only use extension cords that are properly sized for an individual generator's electric to prevent overheating. The American Wire Gauge (AWG) chart can be utilized to determine which extension cord is right for you.
- Keep cords out of high-traffic areas so they don't present a tripping hazard.
- Never run cords under rugs or carpets where heat can be generated or where damage to a cord may go unnoticed.



Do

- Purchase the right generator
- Plan and test generator before use
- Put safety first!



Don't

- Run a portable generator in the garage or the rain
- Ignore instructions
- Store fuel inside the house

Permanent-standby generator safety

- Installation requires a licensed electric contractor or other qualified professional.
- Ensure electricity from your generator does not flow or "backfeed" into PG&E's power lines. The most common way to prevent backfeeding is to install a "double-pole, double-throw transfer switch" along with your permanent standby generator.
- Any additions or adjustments to your house wiring should be inspected by your city or county building department.
- Once installation is complete, call PG&E at **1-800-743-5000** to let us know about your back-up system. PG&E line workers will then be aware of your generator when working on an outage in your area.

Always be prepared.

Power outages can occur because of extreme weather and high fire danger conditions, natural disasters, storms, earthquakes or other unforeseen events. Backup generation can be a helpful tool in any emergency preparedness kit. For solar customers, please note that during an electric power outage, your solar system will not function unless designed to work with a battery or standby generator. For more information, call your solar or battery provider. Additional tips on how to prepare for an emergency or extended outage can also be found at pge.com/beprepared.

Many Shasta PG&E customers have ongoing medical needs. How'd they fare during the outage?

Michele Chandler, Redding Record Searchlight Published 10:05 a.m. PT Oct. 11, 2019 | Updated 4:33 p.m. PT Oct. 12, 2019



In Mountain Gate last Friday, diabetic Michelle Morrow had been without power at her home since Tuesday night.

She's always concerned about keeping her insulin — which she must administer once a day — at the proper temperature.

"With Type 1 diabetes, I rely on insulin for everything," Morrow said. "Without it, I would literally die."

So she packed her refrigerator with three solid 10-pound blocks of ice bought at WinCo Foods.

Down in Redding, Dan Janssens' 90-year-old mother, Mia, struggles with chronic lung disease.

With no power at their north Redding house during Pacific Gas and Electric Co.'s widespread shutoffs to minimize wildfire risk, the device they typically use to fill heavy metal canisters with oxygen didn't work.

Previous: [PG&E says it's making efforts to notify customers with critical needs \(/story/news/local/2019/10/09/pg-e-says-its-making-efforts-notify-customers-especially-those-critical-needs/3913805002/\)](#)

That's why Janssens came to Shasta College on Thursday afternoon. He'd plugged the device up to one of the power chargers set up under a giant tent in the college's parking lot for residents without power to use.

"With an elderly person, you just sit with them and keep them calm. They need routine," Janssens said, "and this is totally not routine."

These are just two examples of how PG&E's intentional shutoff that stretched throughout much of last week created worrisome consequences for some people with chronic medical conditions.

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Shasta County has one the highest percentages of households in California enrolled in PG&E's Medical Baseline Program, which helps customers with special energy needs tied to specific medical conditions to pay their power bills.

At least 1,146 PG&E customers in Shasta County have some sort of life support need, Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency spokesman Tim Mapes said.

"I have no doubt that there's probably folks going to the emergency room that have been compromised in some way as this thing drags out," Dean Germano, chief executive officer of the Shasta Community Health Center in Redding, said late last week, as the power remained down in many communities.

By Saturday afternoon, the power had been restored throughout Shasta and Tehama counties, alleviating worries for many medically needy people and their providers.

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No power at some patients' homes

When the shutdown began, companies like Interim HealthCare in Redding had been busy serving patients needing home health services or end-of-life care.

Some affected patients typically use electric scooters, electricity-powered wound-care devices, or CPAP and other specialized machines that help people with chronic lung conditions breathe, said Interim HealthCare Administrator Cindy Seawright.

"We just had to triage all our patients," Seawright said. "We had to call them, see if they had generators, if they had backup O2 tanks."

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Some people who'd been using an electrical device to manage chronic wounds had to be switched to conventional dressings, she said.

MORE: [Generators, batteries, ice selling fast as PG&E outage lingers on \(/story/news/local/2019/10/10/generators-batteries-ice-selling-fast-pg-e-outage-lingers/3926713002/\)](https://www.redding.com/story/news/local/2019/10/10/generators-batteries-ice-selling-fast-pg-e-outage-lingers/3926713002/)

And since land phone lines don't work if there's no power — and not all their patients have mobile phones — "we make visits and check on them to make sure that they're OK or call family members to see if they've heard from them," Seawright said.

About 20 to 30 of Interim's patients who live in Red Bluff, Anderson and Cottonwood had been affected by the outage.

California power shutdown



- [PG&E power outage: California residents react to #PGEpowershutdown with humor, frustration](https://www.redding.com/story/news/2019/10/09/pg-e-power-outage-california-pacific-gas-electric-reactions/3918254002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
(https://www.redding.com/story/news/2019/10/09/pg-e-power-outage-california-pacific-gas-electric-reactions/3918254002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
- [Here's how the PG&E blackout is affecting sports in Shasta County](https://www.redding.com/story/sports/2019/10/09/pg-e-blackout-shasta-county-sports-anderson-west-valley-redding-christian/3918795002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
(https://www.redding.com/story/sports/2019/10/09/pg-e-blackout-shasta-county-sports-anderson-west-valley-redding-christian/3918795002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
- [PG&E power outage: New website coming soon; PG&E says its equipment alone isn't to blame](https://www.redding.com/story/news/local/2019/10/09/pg-e-power-shutoffs-what-know-wednesday/3913992002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
(https://www.redding.com/story/news/local/2019/10/09/pg-e-power-shutoffs-what-know-wednesday/3913992002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
- [PG&E power shutdown map: See who's impacted by California's Public Safety Power Shutoffs](https://www.redding.com/story/news/2019/10/08/california-power-outage-map-how-pg-e-power-shutoffs-impact-you/3915297002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
(https://www.redding.com/story/news/2019/10/08/california-power-outage-map-how-pg-e-power-shutoffs-impact-you/3915297002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
- [PG&E says it's making efforts to notify customers, especially those with critical needs](https://www.redding.com/story/news/local/2019/10/09/pg-e-says-its-making-efforts-notify-customers-especially-those-critical-needs/3913805002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)
(https://www.redding.com/story/news/local/2019/10/09/pg-e-says-its-making-efforts-notify-customers-especially-those-critical-needs/3913805002/?utm_source=oembed&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=storylines&utm_content=news&utm_term=3918089002)

No power at some clinics

Germano, of the Shasta Community Health Center, said on Friday that the group's clinic in Anderson has been closed since PG&E turned the power off about 9 a.m. Wednesday.

Patients, as well as the Anderson center's seven physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and dentists, were temporarily re-routed to the center's offices in Redding, 12 miles away.

Usually 50 to 75 medical and dental patients are seen in Anderson daily. Only half of them made it to Redding, Germano said, likely because of issues finding transportation or child care.

PG&E power outage: [California residents react to #PGEoutage with humor, frustration](https://www.redding.com/story/news/2019/10/09/pg-e-power-outage-california-pacific-gas-electric-reactions/3918254002/) ([/story/news/2019/10/09/pg-e-power-outage-california-pacific-gas-electric-reactions/3918254002/](https://www.redding.com/story/news/2019/10/09/pg-e-power-outage-california-pacific-gas-electric-reactions/3918254002/))

One patient who came to be seen in Redding has a chronic lung disease but hadn't been able to use her nebulizer, an electric-powered device that delivers medication in an inhaled mist.

"She was exhibiting pretty severe wheezing on exam, and we had to arrange for treatment here and trying to connect her with someplace with power so she could actually be able to use her nebulizer," Germano said.

In another case, a woman needing a power-assist chair after hip surgery was "stranded" as her family scrambled to figure out what to do before finally getting a generator so she could use the chair.

Germano said he was left thinking "how many folks are out there that are on their own or don't have the means to go out and buy or find a generator." Those are the people most likely to suffer health ills from not having power, he said. "As this thing progresses, certainly I think there's a disproportional impact on lower-income people trying to find work-arounds," Germano said.

PG&E power outage: [In one town hit, residents take care of business and each other \(/story/news/local/2019/10/10/one-town-hit-pg-es-power-outage-residents-take-care-business-and-each-other/3915572002/\)](#)

With the power back on, immunizations needing refrigeration must be moved from Redding, where they'd been taken temporarily, taken back down to Anderson.

That could result in further delays for patients.

"It's been very disruptive for us," Germano said.

Charlotte Haisch, director of home health and hospice for Dignity Health Redding, said staff began calling patients as soon as they learned of PG&E's plans to turn off electricity to many households.

About 150 of the service's 275 patient in Shasta and Tehama counties have lost electricity due to the PG&E outages.

The service identified patients who rely on medical devices requiring electricity and people who must ensure medications are properly refrigerated. They devised alternatives such as ice chests or pre-filled backup oxygen tanks to carry medically vulnerable people through until their power is restored.

The first morning after the shutdown, Mercy's staff was back in touch via telephone or in person to see if there were any issues.

"It's going very well for our patients," said Haisch. "They were quite well prepared."

Medical workers and facilities prepare for such electricity outages, which local Dignity officials say occur with surprising frequency.

Haisch said her office receives alerts between one to four times a month about power outages that could affect patients.

"What the community doesn't realize is how many times this happens to us, not to the extent of 800,000 people in California," Haisch said.

"There are constantly power lines going out," she said. "Cars hit power lines and a whole neighborhood will go out."

MORE: [Here's how the PG&E blackout is affecting sports in Shasta County \(/story/sports/2019/10/09/pg-e-blackout-shasta-county-sports-anderson-west-valley-redding-christian/3918795002/\)](#)

Michele Chandler covers city government and housing issues (<https://www.redding.com/search/michele%20chandler/>) for the Redding Record Searchlight (<https://www.redding.com/>)/USA Today Network. Follow her on Twitter at @MChandler_RS (https://twitter.com/MChandler_RS), call her at 530-225-8344 or email her at michele.chandler@redding.com. Please support our entire newsroom's commitment to public service journalism by [subscribing today](https://offers.redding.com/specialoffer?gps-source=CPNEWS&utm_medium=onsite&utm_source=news&utm_campaign=NEWSROOM&utm_content=michelechandler). (https://offers.redding.com/specialoffer?gps-source=CPNEWS&utm_medium=onsite&utm_source=news&utm_campaign=NEWSROOM&utm_content=michelechandler)

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Bliss, Sandi

From: Ruth Hulston <ruth.hulston@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:03 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Ruth Hulston
PO Box 2409
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

October 23, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

Propane is a clean alternative energy that provides millions of residents with a low-cost fuel for washing clothes, cooking, hot water and heat. Propane is also a vital fuel source for rural and low-income residents, providing an affordable energy source often when other energy solutions are not available.

Propane is also part of the green energy movement. Propane provides complementary power for all solar powered homes, as a source of electricity when solar power batteries are depleted. California is also leading the nation with the availability of renewable propane, providing a sustainable solution from sources like animal fat, vegetable oil, and dead trees associated with forest preservation. Disincentivizing propane will limit the reach of solar powered homes to provide uninterrupted power.

Over the past couple weeks, planned power outages and safety power shutoffs have become a reality across California. Most recently 2.2 million Californians were left without power in their homes. For those powering life-sustaining equipment, such as people on dialysis or those who rely on electric powered wheelchairs, electricity is not simply a convenience it's a necessity.

As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ruth Hulston

Bliss, Sandi

From: Eva Ingrum <eva.ingrum@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 8:13 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Eva Ingrum
6444 COTTAGE RIDGE RD
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Eva Ingrum

Bliss, Sandi

From: Rex Barney <Kevie.hallen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 8:43 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Rex Barney
581 coachlight pl
Santa rosa, CA 95403

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Rex Barney

Bliss, Sandi

From: Rex Barney <Kevie.hallen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 8:43 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Rex Barney
581 coachlight pl
Santa rosa, CA 95403

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
Kevie Barney

Bliss, Sandi

From: Janice Griffin <janicejade@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 5:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Janice Griffin
880 N Wright Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Janice Griffin

Bliss, Sandi

From: Nancy Vytlacil <nancyvyt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 4:32 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Nancy Vytlacil
18603 White Oak Drive
Sonoma, CA 95476

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Nancy Vytlacil

Bliss, Sandi

From: David Zuckerman <david@znmlaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 12:52 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

David Zuckerman
16230 Norrbom Road
Sonoma, CA 95476

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
David Zuckerman

Bliss, Sandi

From: Margaret Marquez <dm.vidaurri@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 12:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Margaret Marquez
1804 Los Olivos Road
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Margaret Marquez, MD

Bliss, Sandi

From: Kathleen Solares <ksolaresblue@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 1:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Kathleen Solares
800 Jonive Road
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Kathleen Solares

Bliss, Sandi

From: Cynthia Healy <cynthiathealy@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 1:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Cynthia Healy
161 Meadowcroft Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Healy

Bliss, Sandi

From: James Rumack <jamesrum@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 12:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

James Rumack
7655 Sonoma Highway
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
James Rumack

Bliss, Sandi

From: Melissa Long <melissalong@pobox.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 11:12 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Melissa Long
514 Westmont Ct
Healdsburg, CA 95448

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Melissa Long

Bliss, Sandi

From: Andrea Hanssen <chairheaven@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 11:02 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Andrea Hanssen
2315 Blucher Vally Rd
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Andrea Hanssen

Bliss, Sandi

From: Jennifer Sweigart <jennifermariesweigart@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 10:42 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Jennifer Sweigart
3467 Hillcrest Avenue
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Jennifer Sweigart

Bliss, Sandi


From: Carolyn Glanton <carolyn.glanton@rcpa.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 10:18 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Cc: Guhin, David; suzanne.smith; Aleka Seville
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter of Support for Santa Rosa Reach Code
Attachments: Santa Rosa Letter of Support All Electric Reach Code.pdf

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm, Vice Mayor Rogers and Santa Rosa Council Members,

Please find attached a letter of support for the City's reach code efforts.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Glanton | Climate Program Manager

Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority 

411 King Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

main 707.565.5373



Sonoma County Transportation Authority
Regional Climate Protection Authority

October 21, 2019

David Guhin
Assistant City Manager/Community Development and Engagement
City of Santa Rosa
100 Santa Rosa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for City of Santa Rosa's Energy Reach Code Effort

Dear Mr. Guhin,

The Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority (RCPA) is pleased to express our support for the City of Santa Rosa's work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the consideration of an energy reach code. The RCPA supports member jurisdictions in taking bold action to fight the climate crisis.

The City of Santa Rosa has committed to ambitious climate goals that requires significant reductions in building energy use. In order to meet these decarbonization goals, especially the State's goal (AB3232) of 40% greenhouse gas reduction in buildings by 2030, the electrification of buildings is an essential strategy.

With the continuous increase of clean renewable sources of electricity, switching appliances from natural gas to electricity has a tremendous environmental impact. In addition to significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, the electrification of homes and buildings can offer many benefits to occupants including improved safety, healthier indoor air and avoiding expensive retrofits in the future.

The RCPA believes that reach codes are a cost effective tool for Sonoma County jurisdictions to address emissions from the use of natural gas in buildings and supports the City of Santa Rosa's consideration of an all-electric residential reach code effort.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Suzanne Smith, Executive Director

Bliss, Sandi

From: lindsay mazur <lmazur5@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 10:52 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

lindsay mazur
195 Meadowcroft Way
santa rosa, CA 95403

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
lindsay mazur

Bliss, Sandi

From: Tish Levee <mitzvahm@sonic.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:23 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] All Electric REACH Code

Dear Mayor Schwedheim and Members of the Santa Rosa City Council,

AS I am unable to be present at the first reading of this ordinance, I want to let you know how much I support this effort.

The Climate Crisis is just that--a crisis--and we must do everything in our power to reduce emissions. As Santa Rosa has a clean power source via Sonoma Clean Power, all electric in new residences is vastly preferable to natural gas. Natural gas contains methane, which is 80+ times more responsible for the emissions causing global heating than is carbon dioxide.

Additionally extraction of natural gas poses the problems of flares, and other emissions of methane due to the extraction process. And, of course, using it in confined places such as homes poses health risks, especially to people who already have compromised breathing.

These are all excellent reasons for us to no longer plumb new residences for natural gas (not incidentally save thousands of dollars in costs to new home buyers). As we move more and more into using renewable energy instead of coal, oil, and natural gas, the price of "cheap" natural gas will inevitably rise. (By the way there is really no such thing as "clean" natural gas, and it is NOT a "bridge" fuel. We have the bridge fuels right now--solar, wind, and geothermal.)

I am sure you will hear arguments today about how necessary it is to have natural gas available during power outages. Yes, it is lovely to still be able to cook or have hot water, but the real issue is power outages and the risk of fires here in Santa Rosa. With that in mind, natural gas is something we must be moving away from as quickly as possible. The thought of natural gas explosions during a fire OR an earthquake is horrific. Natural gas can NOT be turned off the way electricity can during a fire or earthquake threat; it must be done residence by residence.

Thank you for your support of cleaner energy and reducing global heating emissions. Please continue these efforts.

For the planet, in unity and peace,

Tish Levee, columnist for the Sonoma County *Gazette*--"For the Planet"

1555 Terrace Way, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

us🌍💚🌍us

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter. Dr. Martin Luther King

Bliss, Sandi

From: Janine Lowery <janine.lowery114@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:22 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Janine Lowery
2756 Porter Creek Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Janine Lowery

Bliss, Sandi

From: Steve Lowery <lowerysteve55@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:22 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Steve Lowery
2756 Porter Creek Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 22, 2019

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RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

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Sincerely,
Steve Lowery

Bliss, Sandi

From: Steve Whitman <bonnyday@pacbell.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:22 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Steve Whitman
1645 Abramson Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
Steve Whitman

Bliss, Sandi

From: Natalie Peters <ccpeters0989@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:12 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Natalie Peters
1300 Wagnon Road
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
Natalie Peters

Bliss, Sandi

From: Sadie Lum <sadnirlum@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:52 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Sadie Lum
15217 Canyon Seven Road
Rio Nido, CA 95446

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Sadie Lum

Bliss, Sandi

From: Mark McCullah <msatts@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:32 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Mark McCullah
417 Countryside Circle
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

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Bliss, Sandi

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To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Natalie Peters
1300 Wagnon Road
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 22, 2019

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Sincerely,
Natalie Peters

Bliss, Sandi

From: Susan Walter <susan@terradolce.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:02 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Susan Walter
4941 Grange Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa.

We do not want all electric homes!

Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with gas or propane.

Recently 2.2 million Californians were left without power in their homes. Do not leave us at the mercy of a greedy utility like PG&E.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Susan Walter

Bliss, Sandi

From: Jill Davis Metzger <Jdaviswinemaker@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Jill Davis Metzger
16 Waldruhe Hts
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Over the past couple weeks, planned power outages and safety power shutoffs have become a reality across California. Most recently 2.2 million Californians were left without power in their homes. For those powering life-sustaining equipment, such as people on dialysis or those who rely on electric powered wheelchairs, electricity is not simply a convenience it's a necessity.

As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jill Davis Metzger

Bliss, Sandi

From: Tim Metzger <MetzgerTim@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Tim Metzger
16 Waldruhe Hts.
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Tim Metzger

Bliss, Sandi

From: Donna Colfer <colfer54@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:12 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Donna Colfer
P.O. Box 913
Kenwood, CA 95452

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Donna Colfer

Bliss, Sandi

From: Barry Bastian <zen2bear@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:52 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Barry Bastian
390 Cahill Lane
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Barry Bastian

Bliss, Sandi

From: John Strassburger <phoenixfarmjohn@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 7:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

John Strassburger
12345 Chalk Hill Rd.
Healdsburg, CA 95448

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
John Strassburger

Bliss, Sandi

From: Caryn Tognozzi <ctognozzi@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 7:32 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Caryn Tognozzi
4000 Pressley rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Caryn Tognozzi

Bliss, Sandi

From: Kim Roche <kimroche@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 7:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Kim Roche
3022 Warm Springs Rd
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

I could just send the form email (you probably have hundreds of copies of the form email), but I want to elaborate. All forms of power are necessary. There are pros and cons to every form of electricity. Solar is not with its own problems. The components of solar require a destructive process to our mother earth. And what do you think happens to the solar power panels when they have outlived their life? Wind power is extremely detrimental to birds. It may be why there are 25% fewer birds than 2 decades ago. Wind power requires thousands of acres of land and effects wildlife. Nuclear power is clean, but there are a whole host of issues with spent nuclear fuel and terrorist issues. I am just being simplistic here, but I am trying to point out that no form of energy is perfect.

With this last power outage, it was propane that allowed me to stay in my home without major discomfort. Why take away out options?

Thanks,
Kim Roche

Sincerely,
Kim Roche

Bliss, Sandi

From: Sofia Lim <Limsofia@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:12 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Sofia Lim
5640 Maryannis Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sofia Lim

Bliss, Sandi

From: Judith Liebling <judienl@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:33 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Judith Liebling
1983 Burnside Rd
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Judith Liebling

Bliss, Sandi

From: Deborah Randick <Debrandick@juno.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:43 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Deborah Randick
4729 Pressley Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Deborah Randick

Bliss, Sandi

From: William Kandler <bkandler@verisof.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 9:13 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

William Kandler
4877 Grange Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
William Kandler

Bliss, Sandi

From: Belinda Soiland <bodeanfiv@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 7:12 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Belinda Soiland
1060 North Dutton Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Belinda Soiland

Bliss, Sandi

From: Gerald Lyons <jblyons@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:12 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Gerald Lyons
879 Scenic Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Gerald Lyons

Bliss, Sandi

From: Ben Lenox <benlenox@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:12 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Ben Lenox
36 W Brookside Dr.
Cloverdale, CA 95425

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Ben Lenox

Bliss, Sandi

From: Kim Edwards <Kim@kimedwards.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:12 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Kim Edwards
6238 Cottage Ridge Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Kim Edwards

Bliss, Sandi

From: David McKee <Mckeedjm@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

David McKee
6 Waldruhe Heights
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
David McKee

Bliss, Sandi

From: Meghan McKee <Mjpeddicord66@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Meghan McKee
6 Waldruhe Heights
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Propane is also part of the green energy movement. Propane provides complementary power for all solar powered homes, as a source of electricity when solar power batteries are depleted. California is also leading the nation with the availability of renewable propane, providing a sustainable solution from sources like animal fat, vegetable oil, and dead trees associated with forest preservation. Disincentivizing propane will limit the reach of solar powered homes to provide uninterrupted power.

Over the past couple weeks, planned power outages and safety power shutoffs have become a reality across California. Most recently 2.2 million Californians were left without power in their homes. For those powering life-sustaining equipment, such as people on dialysis or those who rely on electric powered wheelchairs, electricity is not simply a convenience it's a necessity.

As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Meghan McKee

Bliss, Sandi

From: BYRON CANELLOS <canellos@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:52 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

BYRON CANELLOS
6880 DAY RD
WINDROSE, CA 95492

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
BYRON CANELLOS

Bliss, Sandi

From: James Hedrick <Tacoprep@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:52 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

James Hedrick
19092 Ridgecrest Dr
Guerneville, CA 95446

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
James Hedrick

Bliss, Sandi

From: Gene Koch <Murray@saber.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 6:52 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Gene Koch
PO Box 824
Occidental, CA 95465

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Gene Koch

Bliss, Sandi

From: michael markham <Markhamstyle@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 7:12 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

michael markham
PO Box 173
Duncans Mills, CA 95430

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
michael markham

Bliss, Sandi

From: Wendy Jones <Cnwjones1111@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 7:22 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Wendy Jones
3 Waldruhe Hts
Santa Rosa, CA 95442

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Wendy Jones

Bliss, Sandi

From: Alice Teeter <Alice.teeter@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 7:22 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Alice Teeter
10731 River Drive
Forestville, CA 95436

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Alice Teeter

Bliss, Sandi

From: Charles Jones <Cnwjones7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 7:32 PM
To: [_CityCouncilListPublic](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Charles Jones
3 Waldruhe Hts
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Charles Jones

Bliss, Sandi

From: Mark Partridge <mcparridge@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 7:42 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Mark Partridge
2172 Green Hill Rd
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Mark Partridge

Bliss, Sandi

From: Derek Webb <webb@wamfunds.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Derek Webb
4600 Mountain Home Ranch Rd
Calistoga, CA 94515

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Derek Webb

Bliss, Sandi

From: Kelly Mahoney <Kmsac@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 7:52 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Kelly Mahoney
7111 Cliff Avenue
Bodega Bay, CA 94923

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Kelly Mahoney

Bliss, Sandi

From: steve caratti <latconst@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 7:52 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

steve caratti
po box 214
forestville, CA 95436

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
steve caratti

Bliss, Sandi

From: Margaret Pagliari <bpagliari@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 6:02 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Margaret Pagliari
1743 Abramson Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Margaret Pagliari

Bliss, Sandi

From: John Sperry <jpsperry@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 12:43 AM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

John Sperry
20032 Oyster Catcher Loop
Bodega Bay, CA 94923

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
John Sperry

Bliss, Sandi

From: Josephine Quimado <Josieggirl@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 10:43 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Josephine Quimado
1545 laguna road
Santa rosa, CA 95401

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Josephine Quimado

Bliss, Sandi

From: Eileen Copeland <Lncplnd@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 10:03 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Eileen Copeland
14969 Melody AV
GUerneville, CA 95446

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
Eileen Copeland

Bliss, Sandi

From: Shawn Devlin <psdevlin@pacbell.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 9:53 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Shawn Devlin
6121 Acorn Hill Lane
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

Propane is a clean alternative energy that provides millions of residents with a low-cost fuel for washing clothes, cooking, hot water and heat. Propane is also a vital fuel source for rural and low-income residents, providing an affordable energy source often when other energy solutions are not available.

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As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Shawn Devlin

Bliss, Sandi

From: Connie Minnick <Connie.minnick.7@fmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 9:33 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Connie Minnick
4050 Wallace Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Connie Minnick

Bliss, Sandi

From: Josie McGann <Josiemcgann@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 9:23 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Josie McGann
18waldruhe hts
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Josie McGann

Bliss, Sandi

From: Kate Ingber <Oliveworks@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 8:43 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Kate Ingber
220 Bloomfield Rd
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Kate Ingber

Bliss, Sandi

From: Irwin Lum <ilum@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 7:32 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Irwin Lum
15217 Canyon Seven Road
Rio Nido, CA 95471

October 22, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Irwin Lum



Sonoma County Transportation Authority
Regional Climate Protection Authority

October 21, 2019

David Guhin
Assistant City Manager/Community Development and Engagement
City of Santa Rosa
100 Santa Rosa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for City of Santa Rosa's Energy Reach Code Effort

Dear Mr. Guhin,

The Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority (RCPA) is pleased to express our support for the City of Santa Rosa's work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the consideration of an energy reach code. The RCPA supports member jurisdictions in taking bold action to fight the climate crisis.

The City of Santa Rosa has committed to ambitious climate goals that requires significant reductions in building energy use. In order to meet these decarbonization goals, especially the State's goal (AB3232) of 40% greenhouse gas reduction in buildings by 2030, the electrification of buildings is an essential strategy.

With the continuous increase of clean renewable sources of electricity, switching appliances from natural gas to electricity has a tremendous environmental impact. In addition to significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, the electrification of homes and buildings can offer many benefits to occupants including improved safety, healthier indoor air and avoiding expensive retrofits in the future.

The RCPA believes that reach codes are a cost effective tool for Sonoma County jurisdictions to address emissions from the use of natural gas in buildings and supports the City of Santa Rosa's consideration of an all-electric residential reach code effort.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Smith".

Suzanne Smith, Executive Director

Bliss, Sandi

From: Marti Dodge <Marti.J.Dodge@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Marti Dodge
4601 Pressley Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Marti Dodge

Bliss, Sandi

From: Jackie Nordquist <jackiewinecountry@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Jackie Nordquist
3001 Midway Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Jackie Nordquist

Bliss, Sandi

From: Liz Thompson <lizardlind@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:32 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Liz Thompson
13328 Dupont Rd
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Liz Thompson

Bliss, Sandi

From: Christopher Wood <Sfkoa@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Christopher Wood
20 Rainsville Rd
Petaluma, CA 94952

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Christopher Wood

Bliss, Sandi

From: Ross Albertson <ralbert777@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:02 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Ross Albertson
595 Jensen Lane
Windsor, CA 95492

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Ross Albertson

Bliss, Sandi

From: Patricia Bowdler <bowdler@gosnc.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Patricia Bowdler
6409 Enterprise Rd
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Patricia Bowdler

Bliss, Sandi

From: Trisha Weiler <twajpw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Trisha Weiler
2988 WARM SPRINGS RD
GLEN ELLEN, CA 95442-8731

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Trisha Weiler

Bliss, Sandi

From: William Meyer <williamtmeyer@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

William Meyer
19419 redwood dr
Monte rio, CA 94562

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
William Meyer

Bliss, Sandi

From: Richard Crane <rcrane10@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:12 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Richard Crane
P O Box 583
Cazadero, CA 95421

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Richard Crane

Bliss, Sandi

From: Julie Paro <Jbparo@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:12 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Julie Paro
1425 Laguna Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Julie Paro

Bliss, Sandi

From: Phil Brazis <Brazisfamily@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Phil Brazis
6150 Erland Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-8609

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
Phil Brazis

Bliss, Sandi

From: Dan Viele <dansdonations@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Dan Viele
145 Mountain Meadow Lane
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Dan Viele

Bliss, Sandi

From: Jon Box <jon_box@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:32 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Jon Box
PO Box 39
Villa Grande, CA 95486

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Jon Box

Bliss, Sandi

From: Teresa Hurley <Thurleysf@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Teresa Hurley
15299 Drake Road
Guerneville, CA 95446

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Teresa Hurley

Bliss, Sandi

From: William Bradshaw <anne-bill@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

William Bradshaw
11350 Bodega Hwy.
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
William Bradshaw

Bliss, Sandi

From: Bill Comings <BILLCOMINGS@GMAIL.COM>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Bill Comings
15120 DRAKE RD
Guerneville, CA 95446

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Bill Comings

Bliss, Sandi

From: Brenda Sanders <Brendasanders@comcas.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Brenda Sanders
14600 Jomark Lane
Occidental, CA 95465

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Brenda Sanders

Bliss, Sandi

From: MICHAEL HOPKIN <IPWEE@YAHOO.COM>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

MICHAEL HOPKIN
11450 Bodega Hwy
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

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Sincerely,
MICHAEL HOPKIN

Bliss, Sandi

From: Gigi Kandler <gi2@gi2.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:32 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Gigi Kandler
4877 grange road
santa rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Bliss, Sandi

From: Andy Ferguson <andyf@sonic.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 12:50 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item on Natural Gas Oct 22 City Council Meeting

Dear City Council Member:

The evidence about why methane from all sources (including natural gas) must be curtailed is now critical. Methane now appears to be responsible for roughly 50% of the warming of the planet since the year 1750. Here's the evidence of this from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) and recent research by a group of scientists [Etminan et al.](#)

This simple chart below from the summary of the IPCC report (2013) shows that the total man-made atmospheric forcing due to methane since the year 1750 equals 0.97 watts per square meter. The total man-made net forcing from all sources is shown to be 2.29 W/m². After this graph was published in 2013 a peer reviewed scientific paper by [M. Etminan](#) showed that the atmospheric forcing for methane shown in this chart is understated by 25%, meaning the total net forcing from methane is around 1.22 Wm⁻². The total man-made forcing must therefore be increased by about .25 W/m² to about 2.54W/m² and the contribution of methane to this total is about 1.22 W/m², or approximately 48% of the total. Even the range of of possible error it is clear that the threat from methane is far more the oft cited statement that it contributes 25% to climate change. Because it is a short lived gas, it is critically important to reduce it as soon as possible.

Thank you. Andrew Ferguson

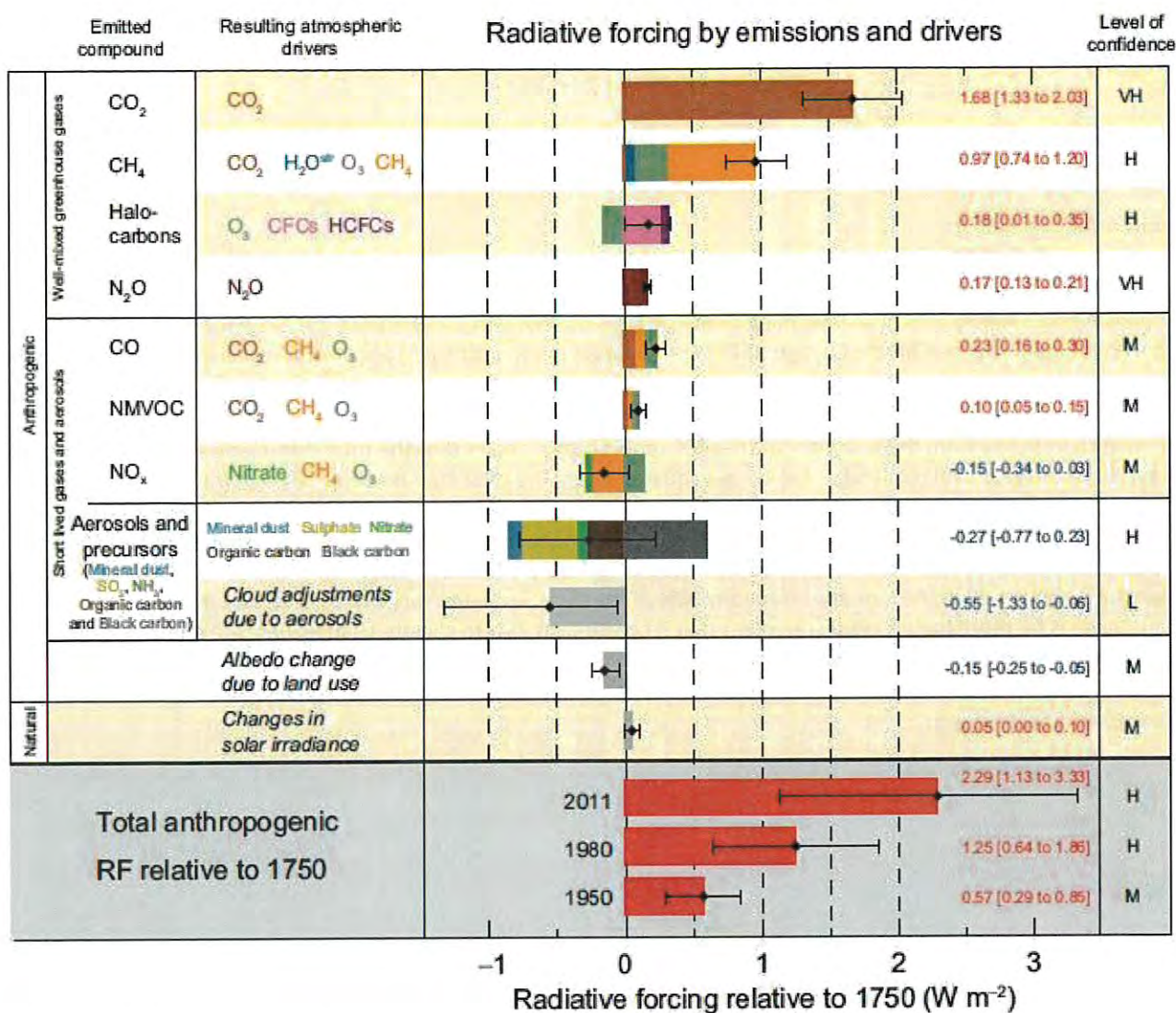


Figure SPM.5 | Radiative forcing estimates in 2011 relative to 1750 and aggregated uncertainties for the main drivers of climate change. Values are global average radiative forcing (RF¹⁴), partitioned according to the emitted compounds or processes that result in a combination of drivers. The best estimates of the net radiative forcing are shown as black diamonds with corresponding uncertainty intervals; the numerical values are provided on the right of the figure, together with the confidence level in the net forcing (VH – very high, H – high, M – medium, L – low, VL – very low). Albedo forcing due to black carbon on snow and ice is included in the black carbon aerosol bar. Small forcings due to contrails (0.05 W m⁻², including contrail induced cirrus), and HFCs, PFCs and SF₆ (total 0.03 W m⁻²) are not shown. Concentration-based RFs for gases can be obtained by summing the like-coloured bars. Volcanic forcing is not included as its episodic nature makes it difficult to compare to other forcing mechanisms. Total anthropogenic radiative forcing is provided for three different years relative to 1750. For further technical details, including uncertainty ranges associated with individual components and processes, see the Technical Summary Supplementary Material. {8.5; Figures 8.14–8.18; Figures TS.6 and TS.7}

Bliss, Sandi

From: Cindy Carbajal <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Cindy Carbajal
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Rosendo Christy

Bliss, Sandi

From: Cindy Carbajal <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Cindy Carbajal
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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Sincerely,
Cindy Carbajal

Bliss, Sandi

From: Cindy Carbajal <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:02 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Cindy Carbajal
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

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Sincerely,
Victor Christy

Bliss, Sandi

From: Maricela Schmidt <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:52 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Maricela Schmidt
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
James Anderson

Bliss, Sandi

From: Jennifer Peschken <JennSellsRe@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:52 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Jennifer Peschken
315 College Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
Jennifer Peschken

Bliss, Sandi

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Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:52 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Maricela Schmidt
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
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As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Henry Anderson

Bliss, Sandi

From: Maricela Schmidt <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:52 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Maricela Schmidt
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Maricela Schmidt

Bliss, Sandi

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Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:52 PM
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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Maricela Schmidt
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Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

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Sincerely,
Sylvia Gutierrez

Bliss, Sandi

From: Maricela Schmidt <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:52 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Maricela Schmidt
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

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RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

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Sincerely,
Porter Anderson

Bliss, Sandi

From: Maricela Schmidt <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:52 PM
To: [_CityCouncilListPublic](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Maricela Schmidt
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

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Sincerely,
Christy Anderson

Bliss, Sandi

From: Maricela Schmidt <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:52 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Maricela Schmidt
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

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Sincerely,
Aurora Christy

Bliss, Sandi

From: Grace Anderson <grace7anderson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Grace Anderson
6560 Petaluma Hill Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Grace Anderson

Bliss, Sandi

From: Donald Cress <dcress@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Donald Cress
521 Bohemian Hwy
Freestone, CA 95472

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

My personal thoughts as a 73 year-old retired person living in a rural area living outside of the Santa Rosa city limits and dependent on propane gas for emergencies.

We live in a rural area. With a propane stove you can at least boil water and cook meals. This is not possible in an all electric home.

I consider it a health hazard not to be able to boil water.

When the electricity goes down, internet service is lost and you are reliant on cell service which is very spotty in many rural areas. That means life threatening poor access to 911 emergency help.

After 73 years on the planet, I'm a big believer in pondering the possible unintended consequences of what seems like a great idea.

I have no problem with an all electric home running on solar power, but relying on a power company in the light of recent PG&E events is absurd.

Sincerely,
Donald Cress

The Form Letter...

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Donald Cress

Bliss, Sandi

From: John Glaser <JGLASER@HILMARINGREDIENTS.COM>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:12 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

John Glaser
212 Meadowcroft Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
John Glaser

Bliss, Sandi

From: bret campoy <bcampoy@me.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 3:12 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

bret campoy
1612 fourth street
santa rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa.

Sincerely,
bret campoy

Bliss, Sandi

From: Toby Paterson <tpater@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:42 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Toby Paterson
3480 Matanzas Creek Lane
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Toby Paterson

Bliss, Sandi

From: Suzi Corda <cordaranch@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:42 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Suzi Corda
5493 Redwood Hwy S
Petaluma, CA 94952

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
Suzi Corda

Bliss, Sandi

From: Beth Thorp <beththorp@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:42 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Beth Thorp
P. O. Box 185
Jenner, CA 95450

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Beth Thorp

Bliss, Sandi

From: Alexandra Yunkers <Syunkers7@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:42 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Alexandra Yunkers
1639 Furlong rd
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Alexandra Yunkers

Bliss, Sandi

From: Scott Townsend <scott@eandm.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:32 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Scott Townsend
1490 Olivet Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Scott Townsend

Bliss, Sandi

From: Heidi Jacquin <heidijacquin@me.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:32 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Heidi Jacquin
751 Shiloh Terrace
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Heidi Jacquin

Bliss, Sandi

From: Paul Roberti <pmroberti@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:32 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Paul Roberti
5644 Hillsborough Drive
Petaluma, CA 94954

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Over the past couple weeks, planned power outages and safety power shutoffs have become a reality across California. Most recently 2.2 million Californians were left without power in their homes. For those powering life-sustaining equipment, such as people on dialysis or those who rely on electric powered wheelchairs, electricity is not simply a convenience it's a necessity.

As the city proceeds to draft building decarbonization regulations, we demand that propane be excluded from any regulation that creates a disincentive for the fuel as it will drive up consumer energy prices and potentially eliminate the availability for propane. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Paul Roberti

Bliss, Sandi

From: David G Castino <dgc@castinosolutions.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:22 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

David G Castino
3603 Orbetello Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
David G Castino

Bliss, Sandi

From: Lauren Bower <lvbower@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:22 PM
To: CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Santa Rosa Shouldn't Limit Consumer Energy Choices

Lauren Bower
3900 Rolling Oaks Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed all-electric Reach Code being considered by the City Council and any ordinance that will discourage energy choice in the City of Santa Rosa. Specifically, I am concerned that the definition of "All-Electric Building or All-Electric Design" in the proposed Reach Code, does not allow for new construction to build with propane.

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Sincerely,
Lauren Bower

Bliss, Sandi

From: Marlene Soiland <marlene@soilandmgt.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:12 PM
To: [_CityCouncilListPublic](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Marlene Soiland
3450A Regional Pkwy
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

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Sincerely,
Marlene Soiland

Bliss, Sandi

From: Grace Pattison <brycepattison@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 1:22 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Give Santa Rosa a Choice -- We Don't Want All Electric

Grace Pattison
163 dublin ct
Petaluma, CA 94952

October 21, 2019

Dear Tom Schwedhelm,

RE: City of Santa Rosa Development of All-Electric Reach Codes

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Grace Pattison

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Jack Pattison

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Sincerely,
Bryce Pattison

Bliss, Sandi

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Sincerely,
Nicole Pattison