

Santa Rosa Office  
555 Fifth Street, Suite 300 A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
(707) 575-3661

September 24, 2019

Mayor Tom Schwedhelm and  
City Council of Santa Rosa  
City Hall  
100 Santa Rosa Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Via email

Re: Support of All-Electric Reach Codes to Address Climate Change Emergency

Greenbelt Alliance urges the City Council of Santa Rosa to adopt a new all-electric building code beginning in 2020 to require new residential construction up to three stories to be independent of the natural gas network, eliminating gas hookups and appliances like gas-fueled stoves, water heaters and clothes dryers.

We support an exemption for homes that are being rebuilt as a result of destruction or damage from the 2017 wildfires from fires exempt).

Taking this action will demonstrate the City of Santa Rosa's commitment to addressing the climate change emergency and creating a climate resilient community for the next generation. The way we grow now and into the future will determine how well we adapt to climate change and start to reduce generation of greenhouse gas emissions.

Adopting an all- electric Reach Code will leverage the city's initiatives to focus growth in the downtown and city center and providing more affordable housing close to jobs, services, schools and transit.

Here are a few facts to consider:

1. Natural gas is ~85% methane. Methane is a greenhouse gas with over 100 times the heat-trapping potential of CO<sub>2</sub>. Continuing to build natural gas homes and associated infrastructure means we are going backwards on our climate goals.
2. Sonoma Clean Power, our public electricity supplier, indicates that building an all-electric home could actually be several thousand dollars cheaper, due to the ability to do without gas main extensions and connections.
3. Replacing gas appliances with electric appliances results in healthier indoor environments. We are required to install carbon monoxide (CO) detectors in all new residential construction due to the hazards associated with combustion appliances. Electric appliances do not carry similar hazards
4. Replacement Induction Cook-tops are great alternatives to natural gas and 90% of users say they like it better than cooking with gas.

[Faint, illegible text covering the majority of the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]



Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Teri Shore, Regional Director, North Bay



**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Tony White <tonwhite@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2019 9:12 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** All-electric ready code.

Members of the Santa Rosa City Council:

Although I recently asked you to consider electrifying city transit and making it free to residents, I also want to urge you to support the all-electric Reach ordinance for new residential housing. It is an important and necessary step towards reaching net zero and I do not want the perfect to be the enemy of the good!

Thank you for your support.

Tony White



**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** jho@sonic.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 3:04 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; CMOOffice  
**Subject:** are you guys nuts?

You hold an emergency meeting because [PG@E](#) says they may have to limit the electric power to the city at a definite time.

There may be an asteroid about to hit the world, let's declare an emergency now to be prepared.

The world is always in danger of a catastrophic event,

Get used to it.

No special treatment can prevent it

By the way, Santa Rosa has suffered big fires in the past, but this time the public and the city wanted to collect money from the electric company, so the electric company has to protect it self from the court claims and has to shut off the power to prevent the cities and the public from filing claims for natural occurrence.

Jack H. Osborne

Sent from Windows Mail

The following information is provided for your reference:

1. The total number of items is 100.

2. The number of items in each category is as follows:

Category	Number of Items
Category A	30
Category B	20
Category C	15
Category D	10
Category E	5
Category F	5

3. The total number of items in each category is 100.

4. The number of items in each category is 100.



**From:** Thomas Barbara Novak <tvnovak@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 25, 2019 5:56 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** I support an All Electric Reach Code.

Please do the right thing for our future.  
Barbara Novak  
Mesa Way, Santa Rosa  
707 545-8418



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** heran Arefaine <heranarefaine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 7:50 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; Rogers, Chris; Olivares, Ernesto; Tibbetts, Jack; Combs, Julie; Sawyer, John; Schwedhelm, Tom; Fleming, Victoria  
**Subject:** Santa Rosa's All Electric Reach Code

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm and Members of the City Council,

Last Friday, [2,000 of your city youth and community members led a passionate strike for Climate Action](#). They raised the call to you, their Elected Officials, to listen to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change climate science which states clearly that we have less than a decade to avoid catastrophic climate impacts. Our very own Director of Climate Research at Sonoma State University, José Javier Hernández Ayala, PhD, stated at Congressman Thompson's recent Climate Town Hall that we have "no carbon budget left".

As a city who has been ground zero for the increasing impacts of climate change during the fires of 2017, it is critical that we do everything in our power to build our local resilience and decrease our greenhouse gas impact.

I therefore ask you to support the passage of an All-Electric Reach Code in Santa Rosa. This is not about "customer demand" in this moment, this is about survival of our species over the next seven generations. **The long term impact of installing natural gas infrastructure now, which is ~85% methane (a greenhouse gas with over 100 times the heat-trapping potential of CO2), would prevent us from hitting our climate goals and cause disastrous impacts.**

By allowing the continued use of the outdated technology of natural gas, you would be saying to the 2,000 youth striking that our community values the short term profit gains of a few local businesses over their future. "This is above all an emergency and not just any emergency. This is the biggest crisis humanity has ever faced," Greta Thunberg, 16-year old Climate Activist, "[This is not a drill](#)."

In addition to our need for climate action, implementing these codes will (1) save money on the construction of housing according to Sonoma Clean Power, (2) apply only to future development, and (3) tell our youth that yes, we will do everything in our power to ensure there is a safe climate for them to inherit. Below are additional reasons to support an All-Electric Reach code.

I urge you to consider the many generations impacted by your decision. **Please support an all-electric reach code.**

**Additional reasons to support an All-Electric Reach code:**

1. All of the current literature substantiates the fact that **all-electric new homes are less expensive to build than mixed-fuel homes**. The most significant cost savings result from the avoided costs of installing gas piping underground from the gas main to the gas meter and inside the home.

According to an April 2019 study funded by Southern California Edison, SMUD, and the LA Department of Water and Power titled [Residential Building Electrification in California](#), initial cost savings are estimated to be in the range of \$3,000 to \$10,000.

According to a September 2018 report prepared by TRC Solutions for the City of Palo Alto titled, "[City of Palo Alto 2019 Title 24 Energy Reach Code Cost Effectiveness Analysis DRAFT](#)," the **costs saved by not installing natural gas in residential new construction** — including plan review, street cut fee, connection charge to existing main, gas meter, gas piping within the residence, and the cost of appliances — total **\$6,314** (assuming iron piping).

2. **Even greater cost savings are available to fire survivors who choose to rebuild all-electric:** the [Advanced Energy Rebuild program](#) (offered jointly by Sonoma Clean Power, PGE, and BAAQMD) offers financial incentives of up to \$17,500 per home.

3. **Many builders conflate discussion of optional all-electric reach codes with discussion of mandatory changes in the upcoming 2019 CA Energy Codes** (which take effect January 1, 2020). The 2019 Energy Codes will require installation of a PV system of sufficient size to provide for the electric needs of a mixed-fuel home (typically a ~2.5 kW system). Even though this added feature has been proven cost-effective on a 30-year basis, it is expected to add around \$10,000 to the cost of a new home (at approximately \$4 per watt).

4. Not only does all-electric construction saves in initial costs, **homeowners will see reduced ongoing utility costs** due to efficiencies of 300% or more that are typical of heat-pump technologies used for heating/cooling and water heating.

5. Builders also mention that their customers don't like cooking on electric stoves. They are thinking of the old radiant coil electric cooktops. Few of these customers are familiar with electric induction cooktops, which are the new standard. It is reported that 90% of people who try cooking on electric induction, prefer it over gas.

6. **Replacing gas appliances with electric appliances results in healthier indoor environments.** We are required to install carbon monoxide (CO) detectors in all new residential construction due to the hazards associated with combustion appliances. Electric appliances do not carry similar hazards.

7. The California Energy Commission acknowledges that we are moving inexorably toward all-electric buildings and away from using natural gas.

8. PGE acknowledges that we are moving inexorably toward all-electric buildings and away from using natural gas. In a letter dated August 21, 2019 to Windsor Town Manager Ken McNab, PGE Vice President Robert S. Kenney states, ***“PG&E welcomes the opportunity to avoid investments in new gas assets that might later prove underutilized as local governments and the state work together to realize long-term decarbonization objectives. With all this in mind, PG&E supports local government policies that promote all-electric new construction when cost effective.”***

9. When builders attempt to compare the greenhouse gas emissions of gas appliances with those of electric appliances, they typically limit their discussion to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and neglect to mention emissions of CH<sub>4</sub>, or methane, which comprises ~85% of natural gas. We now understand that methane is a relatively short-lived greenhouse gas with over 100 times the heat-trapping potential of CO<sub>2</sub> on an annual basis. Fugitive emissions of methane occur at all points in the production, distribution, and storage of natural gas and are currently conservatively estimated to be around 3% of production.

10. 90% of the natural gas used in California is imported from out of state and obtained through **hydraulic fracturing, or fracking**. It is now widely understood that fracking is associated with a long list of catastrophic consequences, including aquifer depletion, aquifer contamination, destruction of landscapes, air pollution, and widespread physical and mental health consequences.

11. Builders sometimes suggest that instead of working to reduce or eliminate the use of natural gas in buildings we should work on reducing emissions from the transportation sector. It's not an “either-or.” We need to do **all of the above**.

12. Builders sometimes bemoan the fact that these proposed changes are happening so fast. The reason that we are calling it a climate emergency is because **it is an emergency**. One responds to an emergency with appropriate alacrity.

Heran

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Trudy McMahon <redwing@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 5:03 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** PGE turning off the power

Who authorized PG&E to turn off the power to areas when it gets hot and windy? Is that a single person or a group?

Did they except comments from the public would be excepted?

Did they consider that there might be possible deaths because they turn the power off to people who need medical devices?

Did they consider the amount of food that would be destroyed, business lost, cattle, horses and humans without water, perimeter security lost for homes and businesses?

Tell me again, since I must've missed it, how does turning off the power keep us from having a fire when PG&E trumpeted the fact that it was not their fault that any of the fires began?

If their lines didn't cause fires, then why are we turning off the power to areas where it's windy and hot?

And why are you so set in having new houses be all electric?

Is it the intent of PG&E to pay the people for the losses they suffer when power is turned off to their area?

No, I'm sure they're not going to.

Do something

Sincerely,  
Trudy McMahon  
545 Ashbury Ave  
Santa Rosa

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Mark Mortensen <mortensen33@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 3:33 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** All electric Reach code

Just a quick note to voice my support for the proposed all-electric Reach code. This is a climate emergency, as you know many are recognizing, and it's time to take steps. Moving away from natural gas is one way to limit emissions.

I know you know all this. Contractors will fill your ears with tales of woe for those who must have gas appliances and faux concern about associated costs. I suspect many of them just do not want to have to bring in electrical contractors and miss out on the gas installations they know and love.

Our children, grandchildren and future generations deserve decisions made now that support their futures.

I'm a Santa Rosa resident, registered and voting, and ask that my city council get in front of this issue by voting for all-electric on new housing.

Thank you.

Mark Mortensen  
209 W. 8th Street  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Twitter: @MarkM33

Facebook: [facebook.com/mark33mortensen](https://www.facebook.com/mark33mortensen)

**Bliss, Sandi**

**From:** jho@sonic.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 3:04 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; CMOOffice  
**Subject:** are you guys nuts?

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Jack H. Osborne

Sent from Windows Mail

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Teri Shore <tshore@greenbelt.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 11:04 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; Schwedhelm, Tom; Rogers, Chris; Combs, Julie; Fleming, Victoria; Olivares, Ernesto; Sawyer, John; Tibbetts, Jack  
**Cc:** Guhin, David; Jones, Jessica; Crocker, Ashle  
**Subject:** Support All Electric Reach Code - Greenbelt Alliance  
**Attachments:** AllElectricReachCode.docx

September 24, 2019

Mayor Tom Schwedhelm and  
City Council of Santa Rosa  
City Hall  
100 Santa Rosa Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Via email

**Re: Support of All-Electric Reach Codes to Address Climate Change Emergency**

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3. Replacing gas appliances with electric appliances results in healthier indoor environments. We are required to install carbon monoxide (CO) detectors in all new residential construction due to the hazards associated with combustion appliances. Electric appliances do not carry similar hazards
4. Replacement Induction Cook-tops are great alternatives to natural gas and 90% of users say they like it better than cooking with gas.

Thank you for your consideration.





Sincerely yours,

Bliss, Randi

Robert Roark  
Regional Director, North Bay  
September 2, 2015

From:  
Sent:  
To:  
Subject:

Teri Shore, Regional Director, North Bay

Teri Shore  
Regional Director, North Bay

**Greenbelt Alliance**  
555 Fifth Street, Suite 300 A | Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
1 (707) 575-3661 office | 1 (707) 934-7081 cell | [tshore@greenbelt.org](mailto:tshore@greenbelt.org)  
[greenbelt.org](http://greenbelt.org) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

It is time to join the Reach Code movement started in Berkeley, now being adopted by many more cities. One of the latest developments is solar electric glass for multi-story buildings, that can outperform rooftop solar, and even work at night when light is not available. Methane releases more virulent Methane... remember the underround gas reservoir in LA? We have 11 years to get off fossil fuel. If we don't cut emissions asap, we won't get there with long lawsuits against Big Oil. So it's up to us to just stop using it. Thanks for your service... Robert Roark

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Robert Roark <robertoroark@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 10:55 AM  
**To:** CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** Reaching out for Reach Code

It is time to join the Reach Code movement stated in Berkeley, now being adopted by many more cities. One of the latest developments is solar electric glass for multi story buildings, that can outperform rooftop solar, and even work at night when lights are on. Natural Gas drilling releases more virulent Methane...remember the blowout of the underground gas reservoir in LA? We have 11 years to get off fossil fuel. If we don't cut emissions asap, we won't get there with long lawsuits against Big Oil. So it's up to us to just stop using it.

Thanks for your service...

Robert Roark

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**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Barbara <barbara-goodman@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 9:52 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** We are in a climate crises

And you all are in a power position  
Representing the rest of us making decisions that are far reaching.

Please support the all electric Reach code

For our grandchildren and theirs.....it's not about more then the next election it is not about just now but what we can do now for the 13 yr old today and their tomorrow

Please and thank you  
Barbara Goodman

Sent from my iPhone

 good

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** JUDITH IAM <brightlightbeing@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 9:25 AM  
**To:** CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** SUPPORT GREEN REACH CODES!

Why?

1. Natural gas is ~85% methane. **Methane is a greenhouse gas with over 100 times the heat-trapping potential of CO2.** Continuing to build this infrastructure means we are going backwards on our climate goals.
2. Sonoma Clean Power, our public electricity supplier, indicates that building an all-electric home could actually be **several thousand dollars cheaper**, due to the ability to do without gas main extensions and connections.
3. **Replacing gas appliances with electric appliances results in healthier indoor environments.** We are required to install carbon monoxide (CO) detectors in all new residential construction due to the hazards associated with combustion appliances. Electric appliances do not carry similar hazards
4. Replacement **Induction Cook-tops are awesome!** 90% of users say they like it better than cooking with gas. ...many more reasons.

Thanks, Judith Iam

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Portia, LITE <lite@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 8:25 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; Schwedhelm, Tom; Rogers, Chris; Combs, Julie; Fleming, Victoria; Olivares, Ernesto; Sawyer, John; Tibbetts, Jack  
**Subject:** Please support All Electric Reach Codes

Please support the All Electric Reach Codes because

Because electricity can be generated locally via solar, has lower climate impacts and is also healthier, safer and costs less.

Thank you,

Portia

--  
Portia Sinnott, Executive Director  
LITE Initiatives, a non-profit working group specializing in simple, sustainable practices with significant consequences.  
Programs: Car-Lite, Community Bikes, Living Green, Zero Waste Action - Sonoma County  
4009 Sebastopol Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95407  
[www.liteinitiatives.org](http://www.liteinitiatives.org)

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Leslie Sheridan <CarpeDiemVoice@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 8:11 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** All-electric Reach Code

SUPPORT IT!

Leslie Sheridan

***Get the highest-quality, organic, cruelty-free, U.S.-grown CBD products,  
with a 60-day empty-bottle money-back guarantee:***

***[www.CarpeDiemCBD.global](http://www.CarpeDiemCBD.global)***

***Follow Carpe Diem CBD on LinkedIn or Facebook!***

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**Leslie Sheridan**  
**707.995.1034**

**Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100013818014020>**



Please consider our environment before printing this email.

1

From: [Name]  
 Sent: [Date]  
 To: [Name]  
 Subject: [Subject]

[Faint body text, likely mirrored or bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Margaret Bregger Coston <sr marg@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 7:20 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** all electric reach code

Support all electric reach code! Our city can make this environmentally correct step.

Margaret Bregger Coston

4940 Montecito ave, santa rosa, 95404



**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** SARA JONES <schatzismom@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 3:16 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** Santa Rosa's All Electric Reach Code

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I'm just learning about the very dangerous effects natural gas has on the crisis of global warming. I am very concerned and am considering whether I can possibly afford to replace my gas appliances being on a fixed income.

When I received an email telling me that the council is considering a measure to require all new construction be gas free, I had to write and encourage you pass such a measure.

The letter I received is full of eye-opening information, all of which seems important for you to consider. So I have copied and pasted most of that letter below. Please give this the attention it deserves!

Sincerely, Sara Jones

Last Friday, [2,000 of your city youth and community members led a passionate strike for Climate Action](#). They raised the call to you, their Elected Officials, to listen to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change climate science which states clearly that we have less than a decade to avoid catastrophic climate impacts. Our very own Director of Climate Research at Sonoma State University, José Javier Hernández Ayala, PhD, stated at Congressman Thompson's recent Climate Town Hall that we have "no carbon budget left".

As a city who has been ground zero for the increasing impacts of climate change during the fires of 2017, it is critical that we do everything in our power to build our local resilience and decrease our greenhouse gas impact.

I therefore ask you to support the passage of an All-Electric Reach Code in Santa Rosa. This is not about "customer demand" in this moment, this is about survival of our species over the next seven generations. **The long term impact of installing natural gas infrastructure now, which is ~85% methane (a greenhouse gas with over 100 times the heat-trapping potential of CO2), would prevent us from hitting our climate goals and cause disastrous impacts.**

By allowing the continued use of the outdated technology of natural gas, you would be saying to the 2,000 youth striking that our community values the short term profit gains of a few local businesses over their future. "This is above all an emergency and not just any emergency. This is the biggest crisis humanity has ever faced," Greta Thunberg, 16-year old Climate Activist, ["This is not a drill."](#)

In addition to our need for climate action, implementing these codes will (1) save money on the construction of housing according to Sonoma Clean Power, (2) apply only to future development,

and (3) tell our youth that yes, we will do everything in our power to ensure there is a safe climate for them to inherit. Below are additional reasons to support an All-Electric Reach code.

I urge you to consider the many generations impacted by your decision. **Please support an all-electric reach code.**

### **Additional reasons to support an All-Electric Reach code:**

1. All of the current literature substantiates the fact that **all-electric new homes are less expensive to build than mixed-fuel homes**. The most significant cost savings result from the avoided costs of installing gas piping underground from the gas main to the gas meter and inside the home.

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2. **Even greater cost savings are available to fire survivors who choose to rebuild all-electric:** the [Advanced Energy Rebuild program](#) (offered jointly by Sonoma Clean Power, PGE, and BAAQMD) offers financial incentives of up to \$17,500 per home.

3. **Many builders conflate discussion of optional all-electric reach codes with discussion of mandatory changes in the upcoming 2019 CA Energy Codes** (which take effect January 1, 2020). The 2019 Energy Codes will require installation of a PV system of sufficient size to provide for the electric needs of a mixed-fuel home (typically a ~2.5 kW system). Even though this added feature has been proven cost-effective on a 30-year basis, it is expected to add around \$10,000 to the cost of a new home (at approximately \$4 per watt).

4. Not only does all-electric construction saves in initial costs, **homeowners will see reduced ongoing utility costs** due to efficiencies of 300% or more that are typical of heat-pump technologies used for heating/cooling and water heating.

5. Builders also mention that their customers don't like cooking on electric stoves. They are thinking of the old radiant coil electric cooktops. Few of these customers are familiar with electric induction cooktops, which are the new standard. It is reported that 90% of people who try cooking on electric induction, prefer it over gas.

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11. Builders sometimes suggest that instead of working to reduce or eliminate the use of natural gas in buildings we should work on reducing emissions from the transportation sector. It's not an "either-or." We need to do **all of the above**.

12. Builders sometimes bemoan the fact that these proposed changes are happening so fast. The reason that we are calling it a climate emergency is because **it is an emergency**. One responds to an emergency with appropriate alacrity.

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** SoCoCAN! <sonomacountycan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 12:31 AM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; Schwedhelm, Tom; Rogers, Chris; Combs, Julie; Fleming, Victoria; Olivares, Ernesto; Sawyer, John; Tibbetts, Jack  
**Subject:** Sonoma County Climate Activist Network Supports All-Electric Reach Code

**Dear Mayor and Members of Santa Rosa City Council;**  
The Sonoma County Climate Activist Network (SoCoCAN!) is a network of over 25 local climate activist groups and 100+ individuals. SoCoCAN! supports the All-Electric Reach Code as an important step against climate change. Please support passing the All-Electric Reach Code.

**Sonoma County Climate Activist Network (SoCoCAN!)**

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Anne Seeley <[aseeleysr@gmail.com](mailto:aseeleysr@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 11:38 PM  
**To:** [\\_CityCouncilListPublic](#)  
**Subject:** All-electric Reach code change

Dear Council members:

Often you are asked for solutions to difficult problems. There is one decision coming up for you that presents you with a solution.

Voting for the all-electric option in changing city codes could be a 'game-changer' in facing the massive need for action to reduce Climate Change.

Please go ahead and do it and demonstrate again that Santa Rosa is a pro-active city.

Thank you!

Anne Seeley

--

Anne Seeley

Please note my new email address: [aseeleysr@gmail.com](mailto:aseeleysr@gmail.com)

Tel: (707) 526-3925

Mobile (707) 484-8722

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** V Jacobi <vjacobi@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 11:03 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; Schwedhelm, Tom; Rogers, Chris; Combs, Julie; Fleming, Victoria; Olivares, Ernesto; Sawyer, John; Tibbetts, Jack  
**Subject:** Please Support the All Electric Reach Code ASAP

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm and Members of the City Council,

I'll be brief, it is an emergency!

**The long term impact of installing natural gas infrastructure now, which is ~85% methane (a greenhouse gas with over 100 times the heat-trapping potential of CO2), is REINFORCING a PATH in the WRONG DIRECTION, TOWARDS MORE CLIMATE SUFFERING.**

The world is watching, and so am I. Please make us proud, rather than sad, angry etc.

**Please support an all-electric reach code.**

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Sincerely and Warmly (in numerous ways),  
Roni

[www.OurGreenChallenge.org](http://www.OurGreenChallenge.org)

*"Climate Change is not just another issue in this complicated world of proliferating issues. It is the issue that, unchecked, will swamp all other issues."  
- Ross Gelbspan in The Heat Is On*

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** luis orozco <lui13luis@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 8:03 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; Schwedhelm, Tom; Rogers, Chris; Combs, Julie; Fleming, Victoria  
**Cc:** Olivares, Ernesto; Sawyer, John; Tibbetts, Jack  
**Subject:** Climate change

Please make all new houses electric and do everything you can to reduce green house gasses. Our world is on fire.

-Luis

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** yangjum sherpa <naruyan3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 7:39 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** In support of All-Electric Reach Codes

Dear Santa rosa city council members,

I am writing this email to show my support to the All-Electric Reach Codes. It's time for our city to take action and become an example to other cities by becoming as sustainable as possible. These new all-electric building codes have many benefits. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Yangjum Sherpa



**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Nayeli Echeverria <nayeliecheverria@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 7:21 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic; Schwedhelm, Tom; Rogers, Chris; Combs, Julie; Fleming, Victoria; Olivares, Ernesto; Sawyer, John; Tibbetts, Jack  
**Subject:** Voting to support All-Electric Reach Codes

Hello,

My name is Nayeli Echeverria, I am 20 years old and am a student at Santa Rosa Junior College. I am emailing you guys to vote for supporting All-Electric Reach Codes. The reason why is because I care about the climate and I strongly believe this will mean we will be going backwards. Let me know if my vote was considered!

Thank you,

Nayeli

## Bliss, Sandi

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**From:** Kerry Fugett <kerryfugett@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 4:46 PM  
**To:** CityCouncilListPublic; Schwedhelm, Tom; Rogers, Chris; Combs, Julie; Fleming, Victoria; Olivares, Ernesto; Sawyer, John; Tibbetts, Jack  
**Subject:** Support for Santa Rosa's All Electric Reach Code

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm and Members of the City Council,

Last Friday, [2,000 of your city youth and community members led a passionate strike for Climate Action](#). They raised the call to you, their Elected Officials, to listen to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change climate science which states clearly that we have less than a decade to avoid catastrophic climate impacts. Our very own Director of Climate Research at Sonoma State University, José Javier Hernández Ayala, PhD, stated at Congressman Thompson's recent Climate Town Hall that we have "no carbon budget left".

As a city who has been ground zero for the increasing impacts of climate change during the fires of 2017, it is critical that we do everything in our power to build our local resilience and decrease our greenhouse gas impact.

I therefore ask you to support the passage of an All-Electric Reach Code in Santa Rosa. This is not about "customer demand" in this moment, this is about survival of our species over the next seven generations. **The long term impact of installing natural gas infrastructure now, which is ~85% methane (a greenhouse gas with over 100 times the heat-trapping potential of CO2), would prevent us from hitting our climate goals and cause disastrous impacts.**

By allowing the continued use of the outdated technology of natural gas, you would be saying to the 2,000 youth striking that our community values the short term profit gains of a few local businesses over their future. "This is above all an emergency and not just any emergency. This is the biggest crisis humanity has ever faced," Greta Thunberg, 16-year old Climate Activist, "[This is not a drill](#)."

In addition to our need for climate action, implementing these codes will (1) save money on the construction of housing according to Sonoma Clean Power, (2) apply only to future development, and (3) tell our youth that yes, we will do everything in our power to ensure there is a safe climate for them to inherit. Below are additional reasons to support an All-Electric Reach code.

I urge you to consider the many generations impacted by your decision. **Please support an all-electric reach code.**

Sincerely,

Kerry Fugett

### **Additional reasons to support an All-Electric Reach code:**

1. All of the current literature substantiates the fact that **all-electric new homes are less expensive to build than mixed-fuel homes**. The most significant cost savings result from the avoided costs of installing gas piping underground from the gas main to the gas meter and inside the home.

According to an April 2019 study funded by Southern California Edison, SMUD, and the LA Department of Water and Power titled [Residential Building Electrification in California](#), initial cost savings are estimated to be in the range of \$3,000 to \$10,000.

According to a September 2018 report prepared by TRC Solutions for the City of Palo Alto titled, "[City of Palo Alto 2019 Title 24 Energy Reach Code Cost Effectiveness Analysis DRAFT](#)," the **costs saved by not installing natural gas in**

**residential new construction** — including plan review, street cut fee, connection charge to existing main, gas meter, gas piping within the residence, and the cost of appliances — total **\$6,314** (assuming iron piping).

2. **Even greater cost savings are available to fire survivors who choose to rebuild all-electric:** the [Advanced Energy Rebuild program](#) (offered jointly by Sonoma Clean Power, PGE, and BAAQMD) offers financial incentives of up to \$17,500 per home.

3. **Many builders conflate discussion of optional all-electric reach codes with discussion of mandatory changes in the upcoming 2019 CA Energy Codes** (which take effect January 1, 2020). The 2019 Energy Codes will require installation of a PV system of sufficient size to provide for the electric needs of a mixed-fuel home (typically a ~2.5 kW system). Even though this added feature has been proven cost-effective on a 30-year basis, it is expected to add around \$10,000 to the cost of a new home (at approximately \$4 per watt).

4. Not only does all-electric construction saves in initial costs, **homeowners will see reduced ongoing utility costs** due to efficiencies of 300% or more that are typical of heat-pump technologies used for heating/cooling and water heating.

5. Builders also mention that their customers don't like cooking on electric stoves. They are thinking of the old radiant coil electric cooktops. Few of these customers are familiar with electric induction cooktops, which are the new standard. It is reported that 90% of people who try cooking on electric induction, prefer it over gas.

6. **Replacing gas appliances with electric appliances results in healthier indoor environments.** We are required to install carbon monoxide (CO) detectors in all new residential construction due to the hazards associated with combustion appliances. Electric appliances do not carry similar hazards.

7. The California Energy Commission acknowledges that we are moving inexorably toward all-electric buildings and away from using natural gas.

8. PGE acknowledges that we are moving inexorably toward all-electric buildings and away from using natural gas. In a letter dated August 21, 2019 to Windsor Town Manager Ken McNab, PGE Vice President Robert S. Kenney states, ***"PG&E welcomes the opportunity to avoid investments in new gas assets that might later prove underutilized as local governments and the state work together to realize long-term decarbonization objectives. With all this in mind, PG&E supports local government policies that promote all-electric new construction when cost effective."***

9. When builders attempt to compare the greenhouse gas emissions of gas appliances with those of electric appliances, they typically limit their discussion to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and neglect to mention emissions of CH<sub>4</sub>, or methane, which comprises ~85% of natural gas. We now understand that methane is a relatively short-lived greenhouse gas with over 100 times the heat-trapping potential of CO<sub>2</sub> on an annual basis. Fugitive emissions of methane occur at all points in the production, distribution, and storage of natural gas and are currently conservatively estimated to be around 3% of production.

10. 90% of the natural gas used in California is imported from out of state and obtained through **hydraulic fracturing, or fracking**. It is now widely understood that fracking is associated with a long list of catastrophic consequences, including aquifer depletion, aquifer contamination, destruction of landscapes, air pollution, and widespread physical and mental health consequences.

11. Builders sometimes suggest that instead of working to reduce or eliminate the use of natural gas in buildings we should work on reducing emissions from the transportation sector. It's not an "either-or." We need to do **all of the above**.

12. Builders sometimes bemoan the fact that these proposed changes are happening so fast. The reason that we are calling it a climate emergency is because **it is an emergency**. One responds to an emergency with appropriate alacrity.



**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** Comcast <mobile0309@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 21, 2019 12:35 PM  
**To:** \_CityCouncilListPublic  
**Subject:** All-electric housing requirement

As Santa Rosa citizens, property owners and taxpayers, we are strongly opposed to the council considering implementation of an all-electric requirement for new housing and possibly consideration of a conversion requirement for existing housing. We hate cooking with electricity, period! We already have a PV system to reduce our carbon footprint, have a new energy efficient gas furnace, plus there is the requirement in place for new housing to start having PV systems. Enough regulation and adding to the cost of home construction already!

The council needs to focus on our existing infrastructure: our crumbling streets, sewers and water system are not going to serve us into the future if serious investments are not made soon. It won't matter if we have natural gas or not.

Thank you for serving the City and your consideration, Mark & Colleen Obergfell

1992

The following information is provided for the year ended 31st December 1992:  
 (a) The company's revenue for the year was \$1,200,000.  
 (b) The company's profit before tax for the year was \$200,000.  
 (c) The company's profit after tax for the year was \$150,000.  
 (d) The company's assets at the end of the year were \$500,000.  
 (e) The company's liabilities at the end of the year were \$300,000.  
 (f) The company's equity at the end of the year was \$200,000.  
 (g) The company's revenue for the year was \$1,200,000.  
 (h) The company's profit before tax for the year was \$200,000.  
 (i) The company's profit after tax for the year was \$150,000.  
 (j) The company's assets at the end of the year were \$500,000.  
 (k) The company's liabilities at the end of the year were \$300,000.  
 (l) The company's equity at the end of the year was \$200,000.

1993