

From: vossistdas@comcast.net <vossistdas@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2021 12:40 AM
To: DES SBCC <sbcc@des.wa.gov>
Cc: lsmith@lakewood-wa.com
Subject: Energy code proposals 21-GP1-103, 21-GP1-136 and 21-GP1-179.

External Email

DATE: September 16, 2021

VIA EMAIL: sbcc@des.wa.gov

CC: lsmith@lakewood-wa.com

Members of the Washington State Building Codes Council:

I am writing in opposition to commercial energy code proposals 21-GP1-103, 21-GP1-136 and 21-GP1-179.

I'm writing as a private citizen greatly concerned about your consideration to significantly limit Washingtonians' options in the market of heating and cooling their businesses and likely homes in the near future.

While I understand the issue currently under discussion is specifically to effect commercial operations at this time, I can only conclude that by severely restricting business owners' energy choices the economic blow to the natural gas industry in our state would soon effect the homeowner.

I can think of zero reasons that less choice amongst nearly any commodity is an advantage for consumers. Unhindered free market results in a flourishing economy. Natural gas is well known to be a clean, affordable and safe energy source. As a senior citizen on a fixed income the loss of our natural gas heat would be a major financial blow. Even if you opt to restrict the access to commercial customers only, the devastating hit to the natural gas industry would likely lead to the death of the industry in our state which would still have the effect of causing hardship for millions of Washingtonians.

Your primary responsibility is to serve the public. Eliminating such a vital resource to those you are called on to serve would be ill-advised and would lead us to question your motives. Why would the council pick and choose winners between energy companies when more options make the best sense for Washingtonians? Who suggested interfering in the free conduct of commerce for us? Who benefits from a complete monopoly for electric companies? Not Washingtonians.

As a taxpaying resident of this state I strongly oppose any attempt to eliminate natural gas as an energy source for our state.

Regards,

*Rita Sand-Voss
Enumclaw, WA*