

**From:** Sidney Beaumont <sidneybeaumont@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 1:48 PM  
**To:** DES SBCC <sbcc@des.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Building Code revision comment

External Email

Dear Chair Klein and State Building Code Council members:

As a resident of Washington State — and someone concerned about the climate crisis and supportive of opportunities to address it through improved approaches to the built environment — **I am writing to urge your leadership to support a commercial energy code that will allow us to achieve the state's goal of zero carbon buildings by 2031.** In particular, I support the revision of the state building energy code to require the use of efficient electric heat pumps for space and water heating in new commercial and large multifamily buildings.

As we know, buildings represent approximately one-fifth of Washington's greenhouse gas emissions, the majority of which are caused by burning fossil fuels for space and water heating. As you are aware, Governor Inslee's Executive Order 14-04 directs the State Building Code Council to "achieve early and widespread deployment of energy-neutral buildings." I strongly believe that to achieve these climate goals we must implement the best building techniques and technologies.

Health and environmental experts are increasingly recognizing the **truly detrimental air pollution and human health impacts resulting from fossil fuel combustion in buildings.** Electrification of new buildings offers a great opportunity to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions simultaneously.

Building all-electric for new construction has also proven to be cost-effective for many developers. Recently, a leading affordable housing developer, National CORE, announced that all of its current and near-term developments will be built all-electric because — it just makes the most economic sense. Highly efficient all-electric buildings typically cost less to operate once built, while also helping to avert public health and climate costs. Fewer buildings connected to gas distribution pipelines also means fewer leaks of methane, a highly powerful greenhouse gas, in and around our communities.

Building professionals have found that all-electric buildings are a robust and market-ready solution. Buildings are long lived assets and it is much more cost effective to use best practices from the start than to retrofit later. As someone who has done a deep energy retrofit and electrification of my own house, **I can personally attest to the efficiency, safety, and comfort of heat pump and induction stove technology.** From where I sit, there is nothing but upside to adopting these approaches.

Thank you for your consideration and efforts and leadership to advance a building code that creates a healthy and prosperous future for our communities and our children

Sincerely,  
Sidney Beaumont

**S. SIDNEY BEAUMONT**

529 31st Ave  
Seattle, WA 98122  
E: [sidneybeaumont@gmail.com](mailto:sidneybeaumont@gmail.com)  
C: 917 783 5835