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Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 3:06 PM

To: DES SBCC <sbcc@des.wa.gov>

Subject: AIA: 2021 WA Commercial Energy Code

External Email

AIA Washington Council

Although I support the general move to heat pumps and solar panel gains, I am wishing to caution AIA **NOT** to get to far on the hype and “bandwagon” push of these new code mandates (laws).

Reasons:

- 1) There will be more effort coming down the pike for the same rules to apply outside the areas of most commercial construction such as small communities and rural areas and these areas cannot depend on electrical grid to stay working.
- 2) The small and rural areas especially north and eastern parts of Washington can get very severe winter storms and heat pump efficiency diminishes and cost skyrocket in those situations with low temps and high wind chills and only fossil fuel systems can handle the need at least at present time. Duplicate systems for “back-up” is a cute way of making those people simply pay more in cost to install and sync together controls.
- 3) There electrical grid is no where near ready in our state to handle all the demand that the electrical inventory is building up to demand. We are putting a cart way in front of the horse here in Washington state and though it is good to press for the clean energy change we cannot be stupid about it. Especially the AIA which needs to keep the respect and trust that all citizens currently have regardless of which party is in control in Olympia.

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