

WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF STATE BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS
TO REQUIRE HEAT PUMPS IN NEW COMMERCIAL AND MULTI FAMILY BUILDINGS
RATHER THAN FOSSIL FUEL OR ELECTRIC SPACE HEATING SO AS TO PROVIDE
A REDUCTION IN CARBON EMISSIONS

Members of the State Building Code Council:

My name is Wendy Krakauer. I'm a grandmother, I live in Seattle, and I just want a livable future for me, my children and my grandchildren.

I urge you to amend the state building code to require heat pumps for heating in new commercial and multi-family buildings, rather than fossil fuel or electric space heating in order to provide a reduction in carbon emissions.

This would help push the state energy building codes toward greener standards and begin to set up buildings for a net-zero paradigm.

In Washington state, homes and buildings are the single fastest-growing source of carbon pollution--up 50 percent since 1990--and contribute 27% of Washington's climate pollution. These emissions are mostly emitted from furnaces, water heaters, stoves and dryers that burn so-called "natural" gas. However, "natural" gas is far from safe, healthy, or natural. It consists primarily of methane - a greenhouse gas 86 times as potent as carbon dioxide - and a large majority of gas we use now comes from the environmentally destructive process of fracking. When methane leaks are taken into account, the full climate impact of fracked gas rivals that of coal.

Please support the proposed building code changes. It is a good start to protecting the citizens of Washington and preserving our future.

Sincerely:

Wendy Krakauer

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