

Comments from the Q&A page during the June 17, 2022 Council Meeting

Ann Fletcher (Guest) 12:56 PM

I am Ann Fletcher, resident of Issaquah and leader of People for Climate Action. I have watched this Council deliberate since 10 AM and now have to leave for another meeting before I can give testimony. Before I leave I want to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in Item 7. Please relay my support to Building Code Council members. Thanks for this opportunity to give my testimony.

Dr Chris Covert-Bowlds (Guest) 01:18 PM

Chris Covert-Bowlds, MD, Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility. I have to leave but want to state my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in #7. They will reduce health hazards for Washington people.

Greta Tjeltveit (Guest) 01:27 PM

I have to leave, but wanted to register my support for moving the full package of energy code proposals to public comment.

Ryan Mello, Pierce County Council, (he/him) (Guest) 01:28 PM

SBCC, thank you for your leadership. Ryan Mello here, member of the Pierce County Council. We have a letter on the record, requesting you move the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals to public comment. Apologies, I need to sign-off. Thank you for all of your thoughtful deliberations.

Joseph B Szwaja (Guest) 01:31 PM

In case I have to leave before the end of the meeting I want to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals

Kaylee Galloway, Whatcom County (Guest) 01:42 PM

Good afternoon. My name is Kaylee Galloway and I am a Whatcom County Councilmember. Out of respect for time, instead of testifying today, I just want to share that earlier this week, the Whatcom County Council voted 6-1 to send you all a letter outlining our perspective. I will resend an email with that letter and my full testimony I had planned for today. Thanks for your consideration.

Lisa Parshley (she/her) (Guest) 01:46 PM

Lisa Parshley, Olympia City Council, out of respect for the council's time I want to register my support for WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in item #7 in lieu of making public comment.

Sameth Mell (Guest) 01:48 PM

Sameth Mell, Spean Rajana: out of respect for the Council's time I want to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in item #7 in lieu of making public comments.

Tracy C (Guest) 01:48 PM

Hello. I have to leave but am voicing strong support for WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals. We have 3 heat pumps, and they are perfect. They should be standard. We need to do everything we can do stop using fossil fuels

Mason Thompson (Guest) 01:52 PM

My name is Mason Thompson, Mayor of Bothell here in my personal capacity to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in item #7 in lieu of making public comments. Thank you!

Martha Baskin (Guest) 01:52 PM

Public testimony from a Sierra Club matter: The blowback from burning fossil fuels and subsequent climate chaos calls on me to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in all new residential construction. An existential crisis of this magnitude leaves no alternative. The critical need to transition away from all fossil fuels, gas, coal and oil is upon us! Thank you.

Millie Magner (Guest) 01:53 PM

I cannot stay but I want my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals registered

Naghmana Sherazi (she/her) (Guest) 01:55 PM

This is Naghmana Sherazi, I live in Spokane, and work with The Lands Council. Out of respect for the Council's time, I want to register my support for the WSEC-R proposals in item #7 in lieu of public comment.

As the climate crisis progresses, its impacts are increasingly felt here in Washington. In the face of climate emergency, it is critical that officials at all levels of government pass the policies needed to reduce emissions, protect our communities from further harm, and foster resilience.

This package of proposals takes steps to address both the efficiency and the use of fossil fuels in our newest homes, which, once built, will be around for decades. Adopting clean codes is necessary to reduce emissions from the buildings sector, and will reduce the disproportionate impacts that air pollution is having on BIPOC and low-income communities, which I am a part of. I urge the Council to move the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposal forward to public comment. Thank you for allowing public testimony.

Tony Usibelli (he/him) (Guest) 01:59 PM

Tony Usibelli, energy consultant, Out of respect for the Council's time I want to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in Item #7 in lieu of making public comments

Marianne Tompkins (Guest) 02:00 PM

My name is Marianne Tompkins, and I'm a Climate Reality Leader in Thurston County. I am here in support of Clean Codes. Out of respect for the Council's time, I want to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in item #7 in lieu of making public comments. Thank you for your service.

Anonymous Attendee 02:01 PM

I have been here since 10 trying to speak - so I will put my comments here to get them on the record.

Anonymous Attendee 02:01 PM

Hello. My name is Holly Townes I am a mechanical engineer specializing in building energy efficiency since 1976, including working for 2 WA utilities– Sno PUD and PSE. Homes and buildings are the second largest and fastest-growing sources of climate pollution in Washington. Your advisory groups have thoughtfully reviewed and vet proposals to meet the state requirements for reducing energy use. I therefore urge you move all residential energy code proposals forward for public comment. I particularly support heat pumps for space and water heating. ASHRAE, the professional society of the HVAC industry, advises it is time to start moving to heat pumps as the next most cost-effective way to meet the climate crisis especially in areas moving to a clean grid such as WA state. Please step up to address our youth's despair that we are not acting quickly enough to meet this already costly climate crisis. Thank you for all your hard work and allowing me to speak.

Rep. Davina Duerr 1 (Guest) 02:03 PM

Members of the State Building Code Council, thank you for allowing me to testify. I am Rep. Duerr from the 1st district, I am a mother and an architect.

- The Legislature has set a series of aggressive targets to reduce carbon emissions, green the grid, transition to electric vehicles, construct energy efficient buildings, and reduce super pollutants.
- The SBCC can assist in meeting our clear legislative intent by establishing a pathway toward clean electrification for new residential buildings
- Specifically we need a code that requires electric heat pump technology for water heating and space heating/ cooling, as the fossil fuel counterparts of these appliances account for the majority of emissions in the building sector. I ask also for increased ventilation reqts over gas stoves due to the health concerns due to their emissions.
- As a mother I am concerned as We are witnessing unprecedented natural disasters that are costing lives and significant economic disruption across the state and the globe
- As an architect, I know how important codes are to creating change, without building codes we might still have single pane windows.
- The 2021 Washington State Energy Strategy states that building electrification is “the least-cost strategy” to decarbonize the building sector.
- We need to send strong market signals to manufacturers and distributors, the state must implement a consistent electrification strategy, start with buildings that have yet to be built.
- One report estimates that electrifying our building stock would create 5,500 installation jobs in Washington and 80,000 manufacturing jobs nationwide, which our state could compete for. As we continue to green the supply side of our grid to reach 100% clean electricity by 2045 as required by state law, we must also work to green the demand side.
- For all the reasons mentioned above, we urge the SBCC to pass the proposed changes to the residential energy code, including requiring heat pump space and water heating in new residential buildings, e

Jon Grant (Guest) 02:07 PM

My name is Jon Grant and I am the Chief Strategy Officer for the Low Income Housing Institute, and I am testifying today to support changes to our building codes to increase energy efficiency and eliminate most uses of fossil fuels in residential housing.

The Low Income Housing Institute is a leader on the development of affordable housing in the Puget Sound region, owning over 70 properties totaling more than 3,000 units of housing in the greater Puget Sound region. Since 2002 we have made a commitment to develop all new properties in accordance with green building principles, such as our June Leonard Place in Renton which uses no fossil fuels and is all electric. We are supporting these changes to the building codes because we have shown that it is possible to make housing affordable and green.

We urge you to move the full package of residential energy code proposals forward for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in #7 in lieu of making public comment. Thank you.

gordon wheat (Guest) 02:13 PM

Gordon Wheat MD. Chair Olympia Physicians Climate Task Force.

I wish to register my support for WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals under item #7.

Two major public health considerations:

First, only a tiny fraction of residents cooking with gas consistently use their ventilation hood and many ventilation systems are inadequate. Even the AMA has now warned of the danger of cooking with gas.

Second, more heat pumps are needed to reduce risk of heat injury. There is heat stress, a common form of heat injury that can be quite harmful even in the absence of heat stroke.

Speaking of heat stroke, the Washington emergency medical system nearly collapsed last June. Valley Medical Center had heat stroke victims arriving every five minutes, all requiring highly intensive care, care they could not provide.

The public health perspective is clear: Phase-out gas and Install more heat pumps for healthy homes.

Thank you.

Nicole Walter (Guest) 02:22 PM

My name is Nicole Walter, and I am a resident of Seattle and the WashPIRG Advocate. Out of respect for the Council's time I want to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in item #7 in lieu of making public comments. Thank you for your consideration on this!

Chrissy Cooley (she/hers) (Guest) 02:22 PM

Hello members of SBCC. Thank you for your time today. I want to register my support for the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals in item #7. - Chrissy Cooley, Vice Chair of Tacoma Public Utilities, Health Department employee, and mother speaking independently.

David Morton (Guest) 02:28 PM

Good afternoon, council members. I'm David Morton. I live near Redmond, WA. I ask the Council to move all residential energy code proposals forward to public comment. We must transition away from burning fossil fuels and toward clean electricity.

Adopting clean codes:

- is necessary to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the buildings sector,
- will reduce the harmful and toxic air pollution associated with the use of gas appliances in buildings,
- will reduce the disproportionate impacts that air pollution is having on BIPOC and low-income communities,
- will save money by avoiding costly retrofits in the future as Washington State moves to electrification, and
- will increase efficiency, reducing energy usage and expenditures in homes.

Please move forward with the all-electric code proposals for new construction.

Thank you.

Kevin Jones (Guest) 02:30 PM

Kevin Jones from Vashon Island. I support the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals. New buildings last decades. Cleaner buildings are critical for our health and our climate. Tying new buildings to the price volatility of fossil fuels does not make economic sense. Our building codes must include requirements for electric heat pumps for water and space heating, and the associated life saving benefits and cost efficiency of heat pump cooling in anticipation of future heat domes. The time may soon come when buyers will refuse to purchase fossil fuel powered homes. Please move these proposals forward.

Robert for healthy housing codes (Guest) 02:30 PM

I support the WSEC-R heat pump and ventilation proposals.