

SAN MATEO, SANTA CLARA & SAN BENITO COUNTIES

City of Pacifica 540 Crespi Dr, Pacifica, CA 94044

RE: Agenda Item 11: Sierra Club support for adoption of reach codes

Dear Mayor Bier and Pacifica City Councilmembers,

The Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter is in full support of Pacifica's updated reach code. We are glad to see that blanket exemption language from the previous reach code has been removed and replaced with a hardship exemption. Every new gas pipeline we allow to be built is ultimately a liability for the public health of residents and our climate goals.

We ask that Council motion to make a small amendment to align the language of Section 4.106.5 and Section 5.106.13.

Given the clerical nature of this change, we hope that Pacifica can amend the language and still proceed with a first reading tonight. Ultimately, if this becomes a barrier to a first reading, we think Pacifica should prioritize moving forward with a first reading tonight.

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Changed language

We recommend that Section 5.106.13 be amended (new language in green) to read **"and appliances, or any other purpose"** in order to keep the language consistent with Section 4.106.5.

Original language

"Section 4.106.5 All Electric Buildings. All New Construction Buildings shall meet the definition of All Electric Building as defined in Section 202. Any building required pursuant to this Code to be an All Electric Building shall not be permitted at any time to convert or construct improvements to use other fuel sources, other than electricity, for purposes of cooking, space conditioning, water heating, lighting, pool and spa systems, and appliances, or any other purpose, unless authorized by the Building Official pursuant to Section 5.106.13.

[...]

Section 5.106.13 All Electric Buildings. All New Construction Buildings shall meet the definition of All Electric Building as defined in Section 202. Any building required pursuant to this Code to be an All Electric Building shall not be permitted at any time to convert or construct

improvements to use other fuel sources, other than electricity, for purposes of space conditioning, water heating, lighting, pool and spa systems, and appliances."

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Electrifying new buildings is a necessary, reasonable, and beneficial early step in combating the climate crisis. Moving forward, we hope Pacifica fully explores the partnership and funding opportunities available for building electrification rebates and programs. Several local cities, including San Jose, Palo Alto and Cupertino, have already established electrification targets for existing buildings and are exploring policy solutions.

Sincerely,

Nancy Tierney, Pacifica Resident,

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Loma Prieta Chapter Climate Action Leadership Team Volunteer

Margo Meiman, Pacifica Resident,

Sierra Club Member

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Dashiell Leeds,

Conservation Organizer, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter