

From: [Melissa Yu](#)
To: [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Malia Vella](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [John Knox White](#)
Cc: [Danielle Mieler](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sierra Club letter of support agenda item 7B
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 4:02:39 PM
Attachments: [We sent you safe versions of your files.msg](#)
[City of Alameda - Agenda Item 7-B.pdf](#)

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Dear Mayor Ashcraft and City Council Members,

Please find attached Sierra Club's support letter for agenda item 7B.

Best,

Melissa

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Melissa Yu
Senior Energy Campaigns Representative
[Sierra Club, San Francisco Bay Chapter](#)
Office: (510) 848 - 0800
Cell: (415) 870 - 3142



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December 5, 2022

TO: City of Alameda Mayor Ashcraft and City Council Members

RE: Agenda Item 7-B

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and City Council Members,

The Sierra Club is writing in support of the city's revised new building electrification ordinance that requires alterations that include the replacement or addition of over 50 percent of the existing foundation to be all-electric. We are thrilled to see the City of Alameda take the lead on building decarbonization. The City of Alameda was already the first of many cities that took the lead to adopt an all-electric reach code for all newly constructed buildings back in 2021 and is again taking leadership to revise this ordinance to include buildings undergoing substantial renovations.

As you are likely already aware, natural gas appliances in the Bay Area alone release nearly three times as much nitrogen oxides (NOx) as light-duty passenger vehicles, and over eight times as much NOx as power plants. NOx, ozone, and PM2.5 endanger human health by causing respiratory conditions, such as asthma, wheezing, decreased lung functioning, increased likelihood of hospital visits, heart disease, and even early death. As a result of this pollution, buildings in California are responsible for over 1,500 premature deaths and over \$17 billion dollars of health care costs.

Just this past September, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) approved the State Implementation Plan and solidified its commitment to pursue zero-emission appliance standards by 2030. With most appliances replaced every 10 to 20 years or more, we must take advantage of the utilization of equipment life cycles to avoid locking in decades of fossil fuel infrastructure and perpetuating the public health, safety, and affordability risks borne by vulnerable



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households. The strategies for ensuring an orderly transition away from natural gas appliances are still being developed, which is why it is so important for cities to stop building fossil fuel infrastructure when the opportunity presents itself for substantial remodels. This will allow cities and the state to better plan for a transition to clean energy in homes. This is why policies to halt the expansion of the gas system are so important.

Let's keep the momentum behind these policies. Stop building fossil fuel infrastructure and set a precedent for other cities to follow suit!

Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Igor Tregub

Igor Tregub

Sierra Club Northern Alameda Group Chair