

Docket U-240281

Devon Kellogg

HB 1589 Rulemaking

June 24, 2024

Received
Records Management
Jun 25, 2024

Greetings Utilities and Transportation Commissioners,

I am commenting today as a parent, homeowner, and a PSE customer who is concerned about meeting our state targets for maintaining a stable climate now and for future generations. I am writing to ask you to take into consideration the health and climate costs of fossil fuel appliances in homes while making your rules for utility compliance with HB1589. Additionally, I ask that you also remove any remaining new gas hookup incentives!

According to the WA State Department of Commerce Residential Building Decarbonization Implementation Plan, 95% of existing residential homes will need to electrify by 2050 with no new gas buildout by 2027 to meet state pollution-reduction goals. And the 2021 State Energy Strategy “recommends building electrification as the least-cost pathway to decarbonizing Washington’s building stock”.

Additionally, I can attest first-hand to how unhealthy gas-powered heating and cooking appliances in the home are, and how ineffectual and even dangerous these toxic and flammable machines can be during a storm, heatwave, or seismic event! Whereas their clean, efficient counterparts also provide cooling in our increasingly warming world, and can be powered onsite by EV batteries in an emergency! I have also experienced how difficult and expensive it is to retrofit to electric alternatives once gas appliances are in place.

To most cost-effectively meet the state’s climate goals, minimize the health and safety risks of gas appliances on residents, and remove challenges and costs for homeowners to upgrade from gas to electric options, I urge you to factor these long-term impacts into your cost calculations as well as remove any remaining incentives for new hookups!

Thank you for your consideration,

Devon Kellogg (and Family)