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**From:** [Keith Watts](#)  
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External Email

To whom it may concern,  
Regarding the Decarbonization of Natural Gas study by SSG....

I support the pathway that gives electrification more weight than alternate fuels. The 2021 State Energy Strategy concludes that electrifying the vast majority of buildings is the lowest-cost, lowest-risk pathway to building decarbonization, and multiple expert analyses have reached the same conclusion. Ongoing technological and market developments have created significant momentum that further solidifies electrification as the best pathway to building decarbonization in Washington.

I am concerned about several risks and limitations of the alternative fuels pathway. First, the pathway relies on several technologies that are not yet commercially available in Washington, including gas heat pumps, green hydrogen electrolysis, and synthetic methane production. By contrast, electric heat pump technology has existed for decades and is widely available. The pathway's reliance on non-commercial technologies presents significant risks of near-term inaction increasing the costs of meeting climate targets down the road, or causing Washington to miss those targets altogether. Second, the alternative fuels pathway presents significant risks related to limited availability and high costs of alternative fuels.

In general, I will support a diversified portfolio of energy supply and demand side technologies to reach our decarbonization goals.

Sincerely,  
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