

Archived: Friday, August 13, 2021 3:09:50 PM

From: [Rachel Koller \(Shift Zero\)](#)

Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 2:22:33 PM

To: [City Council](#)

Cc: [Ck](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Fossil Fuel Free New Buildings

Sensitivity: Normal

Attachments:

[2021.08.12 Shift Zero Support for Shoreline Fossil Fuel Free New Buildings.pdf](#);

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Shoreline. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

Attached please find a letter from Shift Zero, in support of the upcoming discussion of prohibition of fossil fuels in new construction on August 16.

Shift Zero is an alliance of 45 green building, energy efficiency, and climate action organizations working together to catalyze a just transition to zero carbon buildings for all in Washington State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

Rachel Koller

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Rachel Koller, Coordinator

[Shift Zero](#), a zero carbon building alliance

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she/her



Member Organizations

A&R Solar
American Institute of Architects Seattle
American Institute of Architects Washington Council
ArchEcology
Balderston Associates, LLC
Built Green
Bundle Design Studio
Carbon Innovations
Clean Energy Transition Institute
Climate Solutions
Ecotope
Electrify Now
Emerald Cities Seattle
FSi Engineers
Housing Development Consortium of Seattle-King County
ILFI South Sound Collaborative
International Living Future Institute
The Miller Hull Partnership
New Buildings Institute
Northwest EcoBuilding Guild
Northwest Energy Efficiency Council
Northwest Partners LLC
Northwest Renewables
NW Energy Coalition
O'Brien360
Olympia Community Solar
Optimum Building Consultants, LLC
PAE Engineers
Passive House Accelerator
Passive House Institute of the United States
Passive House Northwest
RE Sources
Resource Media
Seattle 2030 District
Sierra Club - Washington State
South Seattle Climate Action Network
Spark Northwest
Stand.earth
Sustainable Connections
Thurston Climate Action Team
UMC
Washington Environmental Council
2050 Institute
350 Seattle
350 Spokane

www.shiftzero.org

August 12, 2021

To: Honorable Councilmembers of the Shoreline City Council

RE: Support for Prohibition of Fossil Fuels in New Construction

Shift Zero is an alliance of 45 green building, energy efficiency, and climate action businesses, organizations, and certification programs, working together to promote the equitable adoption of zero carbon buildings at scale. With our collective expertise as practitioners in the design and construction of high performance buildings, energy efficiency, and clean energy technologies, we know that our buildings--where we live and work--must be part of Washington's climate solution. Together, we advocate for policies and programs to support this outcome, which is critical for Shoreline and the state of Washington to meet decarbonization goals and for a healthy and resilient economy.

Today's decisions on building policy will impact our region's energy use and carbon pollution for many decades to come, continuing to affect climate. Bold action is needed to reduce Shoreline's greenhouse gas emissions, as emissions from buildings are growing at a faster rate than any of other source of carbon pollution in the state - largely due to the use of fossil gas (also known as natural gas) for space heating, water heating, and cooking.

We have the technology and expertise in the building industry to address this challenge. We can eliminate inefficient electric and fossil fuel-fired water and space heating equipment in favor of efficient electric heat pumps and heat pump hot water heaters. Electric heat pumps also provide air conditioning, which is increasingly vital to helping people keep cool and improve indoor air quality during wildfire smoke and heat waves that are part of our changing climate.

Shift Zero strongly supports the prohibition of fossil fuels in new buildings, and we are pleased to see this topic up for discussion by the Shoreline City Council. We need leadership at all levels of government to equitably transition building energy use away from natural gas to clean electricity.

Shift Zero members are available to provide technical input and practitioner expertise as you consider policy development. Thank you for your consideration of this issue. We hope that this discussion will lead to passing policies that require clean, safe, all-electric new buildings in Shoreline.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Smith
Steering Committee Co-Chair

Amy Wheelless
Steering Committee Co-Chair

Andrew Lee
Steering Committee Co-Chair

