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Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 4:09:40 PM

To: [agenda comments](#)

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**Form Name:** Comment on Agenda Items  
**Date & Time:** 08/16/2021 4:08 pm  
**Response #:** 879  
**Submitter ID:** 43360  
**IP address:** 67.129.104.106  
**Time to complete:** 15 min. , 6 sec.

#### Survey Details: Answers Only

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1. Nina A Olivier
2. Seattle
3. (o) Ballinger
4. nolivier@mbaks.com
5. 08/16/2021
6. Discussion of Prohibition of Fossil Fuels in New Construction
7. Hello,  
I am representing the Built Green Program of the Master Builder's Association of King and Snohomish Counties. We are strongly in support of the move to prohibit Fossil Fuels in New Construction in the City of Shoreline due to the following important points:
  - Cities and counties across the United States are already taken action. Seattle and State of California just took an important step to include efficient electric heat pumps as a baseline technology for new homes and buildings starting in 2023.
  - Apart from greenhouse gas emissions, gas appliances emit dangerous pollutants and worsen both indoor and outdoor air quality. Living in a home with gas cooking increases a child's chance of experiencing asthma symptoms by 42%. Long-term exposure to air pollutants like nitrogen oxide and particulate matter is correlated to a higher risk of death from COVID-19.
  - If we keep constructing multifamily residential buildings that consume fossil fuels, we'll be locking in that fossil fuel consumption for another 50-70 years. In order to avoid the most detrimental impacts of climate change recently reported by the IPCC, buildings will be required to implement more expensive retrofits, than if buildings were built without the use of fossil fuels in the first place. Due to the split incentives between property owners and tenants when it comes to expensive energy efficiency retrofits, low-income residents will bear the highest burden from the continued use of gas in multifamily developments; through increased health risks, disproportionate exposure to the impacts of climate change, rising gas prices, and increased risk of displacement from rent increases.The use of natural gas in buildings also poses safety risks to communities due to the potential for gas leaks and pipeline explosions. Over the past five years, an "accident or incident" has occurred on the U.S. gas distribution systems on average every six days, causing dozens of fatalities, hundreds of injuries, and millions of dollars in property damage. A natural gas explosion in Seattle's Greenwood neighborhood in 2016 leveled two buildings, injured rescue workers, impacted 36 businesses, and created over \$3 million in damage. Earthquake risk makes buildings in Washington particularly vulnerable because highly pressurized gas transmission pipelines run a high risk of exploding during earthquakes, and gas is responsible for at least 20% of post-earthquake fire ignitions.  
Sincerely,  
Nina Olivier  
Built Green Program Coordinator
8. (o) Support

Thank you,  
City of Shoreline

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