

From: [Steve Schmidt](#)
To: [Anthony Suber](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT: Electrification Reach Code -- Require Heat Pumps for Pool Heating
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 12:22:21 PM

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Dear Neighbors --

Thank you for your leadership with respect to climate change; those of us with resources need to demonstrate the way to a more sustainable lifestyle.

I encourage you to continue your leadership and **APPROVE the Electrification Reach code** on tonight's consent calendar (item #3).

Background --

My company (HEA) is focused on residential energy efficiency and electrification. We run PG&E's HomeIntel service, offered at no charge to all PG&E customers who want to lower their bills or reduce their home's carbon footprint. Our service has been used by over 30,000 PG&E customers, including over 150 Atherton residents.

From this Atherton data we know that **pool heating is one of the largest uses of natural gas (methane) in Atherton homes.**

Until recently, natural gas pool heaters were the only way to heat a pool year-round. But today there are excellent heat pump pool heaters which are far more energy efficient and much better for the planet. They cost a bit more upfront, but since each newly installed pool heater may be in place for 20-30 years, any new natural gas pool heaters will make it difficult for Atherton to achieve its GHG emissions reduction goals.

On the other hand, with sufficient electric panel capacity, **new pools & spas have absolutely no need to burn fossil fuels.**

Respectfully submitted,

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