



## More California communities may limit new gas lines this Fall!

Dear Members,

While the City of Berkeley's outright ban on new gas lines has grabbed a lot of attention, HPBA has recently learned that as many as **60 communities** in this state are considering limits on Natural Gas in new construction. You need to monitor the cities you do business in and be prepared to take action at city council meetings.

**Why is this happening now?** The 2019 California Energy Code will go into effect on January 1, 2020. Any city or county can adopt the new code with local 'reach' additions before it goes into effect. This means that this fall is the window to add local issues into the code which will be in place for the next 3 years.

A group known as the California Energy Codes and Standards Program has been holding workshops since June to teach cities how to adopt more stringent versions of the new energy code.

What we believe will be proposed in San Luis Obispo, and possibly Santa Rosa in just a few weeks, allows new homes to have natural gas (Multi-fuel homes), with 2 key provisions.

- Pay a "Carbon Offset" fee as part of the permit costs
- Wire a separate electric circuit, within 3 feet of each gas appliance for future electrification
- Add more insulation than required by new 2019 code

**Net Effect:** Gas Lines will still be allowed; they will just make the home much more expensive than an all-electric home.

### What Can you Do?

Since September and October are the key times for these ordinances you need to check your cities website for any discussion of a "**Clean Energy Plan**", or, "**Clean Energy Choice Program**".

If you find any information on this issue, contact [HPBA Pacific](#) immediately, and begin following the issue in your city.

Sincerely,

Mario Allen - HPBA-Pacific President  
John Crouch - Director - Public Affairs of HPBA