



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Choice being threatened for commercial and residential use of natural gas

Sacramento, CA – The public is urged to attend an important webinar scheduled for this Wednesday, May 13, at 4 p.m. from the Mayors’ (of Sacramento and West Sacramento) Commission on Climate Change (MCCC). The webinar will include recommendations for the cities’ plan mandating all new construction to be all-electric, eliminating fossil-fuel use in new buildings by 2023 and transition 25% of existing residential and small commercial buildings to all-electric power by 2030. This direction is included in the draft report, *Achieving Carbon Zero in Sacramento and West Sacramento by 2045*. To register to hear the discussion, sign up at

https://lgc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_myF6DkGoQMyThbl1yk82Sg

It should be of grave concern that amid so many of the public’s choices being taken away due to the current pandemic, what fuel they use to heat their homes is also targeted for serious restriction. The Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association has for many years encouraged homeowners to use fuel efficient products, with manufacturers producing a myriad of products to fill this demand. Natural gas is an affordable option and should not be eliminated in favor of any other option.

“What makes the most sense for our planet is to live with a balanced choice of energy sources,” Says Mario Allen, Board president of the Pacific affiliate of HPBA. “Consumers must be able to select the best power and fuel option from natural gas, electricity, solid fuel, propane and solar. There are many very efficient products for homeowners now.

“This restriction is misguided and very short-sighted and will cost the consumers millions over time. The public is urged to have a voice in how much they spend on appliances for their homes. If this MCCC mandate goes through, costs will indeed go up during a time of major recovery from our current health and economic crisis.”

To listen to the meeting and make comments go to

https://lgc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_myF6DkGoQMyThb11yk82Sg

Consumers are reminded that specialty hearth products retailers can show homeowners and building owners the latest efficient hearth products and answer any safety or maintenance questions for all fuel hearths.

The Hearth, Patio & Barbecue (HPBA) is the North American industry association for manufacturers, retailers, distributors, representatives, service firms and allied associates for all types of hearth, barbecue, patio appliances, and accessories. The association provides professional member services and industry support in education, statistics, government relations, marketing, and consumer education.

Retailers belonging to the HPBA Pacific have special training and experience to provide expert advice on all fireplace needs. To locate retailers, visit

www.hpapacific.org or call 626-237-1200.

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