

Finlayson, Ian (ENE)

From: Parvathi Susarla <pvutla@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, 11 August 2022 10:00 AM
To: STRETCHCODE (ENE)
Subject: BUILDING CODE COMMENTS

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Dear Commissioner Woodcock, Secretary Card, and Secretary Kennealy,

I am a bedford town resident / member of Mother's OutFront and very concerned about global climate changes. I am writing to ask that DOER develop a specialized stretch energy code that ensures the Commonwealth can meet building sector emissions targets while also making buildings a core climate mitigator and protector of our health. Please eliminate all fossil fuel pathways for new construction and and renovations.

The revised draft of the specialized stretch code still allows fossil fuel in buildings. Allowing fossil fuels in new buildings will just create another generation of existing buildings that will soon need to be retrofitted with electrified heating at significantly greater expense. This is unacceptable.

We must ensure that low-income ratepayers are not burdened with rising fossil fuel prices during the clean energy transition. Local and state policies must work in coordination with a true net zero stretch energy code to prevent this from happening. We will need expanded workforce training and incentivized heat pump retrofits for low- and moderate-income ratepayers so that they can share the benefits of clean energy-efficient home heating systems and the clean energy economy boom. Energy-burdened communities will benefit most from energy-efficient affordable housing and declining emissions.

I demand that DOER ensure that vulnerable residents are prioritized in the clean energy transition, and that fossil fuel pathways are removed or allowed under only a very limited set of conditions.

Sincerely,
Parvathi Susarla
28 Houlton st
Bedford, MA

Sent from my iPhone