

Finlayson, Ian (ENE)

From: S Beck <flyjib@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 7 August 2022 1:10 PM
To: STRETCHCODE (ENE)
Subject: BUILDING CODE COMMENTS

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Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to you in support of allowing Massachusetts cities and towns to adopt a specialized net zero energy code which could require **fossil-fuel-free** paths to code compliance for new buildings. If we are to take seriously our commitment to net-zero emissions statewide by 2050, we have to start NOW to ensure that new housing and building construction is adapted to meet these requirements, since buildings constructed today will still be around in 28 years.

Multiple studies have shown that using heat pumps and electric-only appliances adds negligible cost to construction, and will save homebuyers and homeowners money right away on utility bills and maintenance of natural gas infrastructure that they will not need.

In my own case, we have retrofitted our home with solar panels and heat pumps which not only greatly reduce our energy bills, but also make our home much more comfortable both in winter and summer. But retro-fitting is more expensive and not as efficient as having a home built as all-electric in the first place. It would be much better for buyers of new homes to have the choice to live in a clean, energy efficient home right from the start.

With many thanks for your consideration,
Sara Beck
Topsfield, Massachusetts