



August 15, 2022

Marin County Board of Supervisors  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 329  
San Rafael, CA 94903

**RE: Electrifying Marin's Buildings**

Honorable Supervisors,

Sustainable San Rafael applauds the County's agreement with most of the findings of the Marin Grand Jury's compelling report on Electrifying Marin's Buildings, as well as your intention to adopt a 'reach code' this fall requiring all new buildings to be all-electric and incentivizing residential renovations to use electric appliances and HVAC systems.

We urge you to move beyond the equivocations in your response regarding comprehensive planning for an equitable transition of existing buildings to electric (F4 and R3) by implementing action RE-C3 of the County's current Climate Action Plan:

*"Consider adopting an ordinance in 2024 that requires homeowners to replace natural gas appliances, such as water heaters, stoves, cooktops, clothes dryers, and heating systems with high efficiency electric appliances at time of replacement where feasible. Evaluate the financial impact on households at different income levels and consider offering rebates or subsidies, in partnership with electricity providers if available, for disproportionately impacted households."*

Implementing this action on this timeline is necessary to achieve the GHG reductions needed to reach the County's goals of 60% fewer emissions by 2030 and zero net emissions by 2045, given the long life-cycles of building appliances and equipment. Funding to help address the important equity concerns should now be available from the recently passed federal health and climate legislation, as well as continued partnering with MCE and others.

Requiring building electrification is perhaps the most impactful climate action within the power of County and local government, ultimately reducing overall GHG emissions by about a quarter, while eliminating fossil fuels from our homes and businesses. Acting now provides an opportunity for Marin to meet its climate goals and to assert statewide climate leadership.

Thank you for your dedication to meaningfully cut Marin's contributions to climate change.

Sincerely,

William Carney  
President, Sustainable San Rafael