From: <u>Colleen Corrigan</u>

To: Board of Supervisors (BOS)

**Subject:** Item 251064: Supporting the Bay Area Air District's Zero-Emission Building Appliance Rules

**Date:** Monday, October 27, 2025 3:26:57 PM

**Attachments:** SF Resolution Support Letter for Board of Supes.docx

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## Hello,

SPUR and the Sierra Club are writing to express strong support for the Bay Area Air District's zero-emission appliance standards, Rules 9-4 and 9-6, and the resolution by the Board of Supervisors to support them. These rules are a critical step toward protecting the health, safety, and quality of life of our communities by phasing out the most polluting furnaces and water heaters and replacing them with clean, zero-emission alternatives.

There is a strong, realtor- and Republican-led opposition campaign that is underway and preparing for a fight to roll back the rules entirely or delay them. In the South Coast Air District, similar forces got cities to adopt resolutions opposing the zero-NOx rules, which may have played a persuasive role with board members. Supportive city resolutions like this one will help demonstrate to the Air District board that the Bay Area wants to move forward, and clean up our air in a timely manner.

Air quality remains a major concern for the Bay Area. Our region still fails to meet state and federal air standards for harmful pollutants such as particulate matter and ozone. Gasburning appliances including the furnaces and water heaters found in nearly every home are among the largest sources of local pollution, emitting more nitrogen oxides (NOx) than all passenger cars on Bay Area roads combined. This pollution is not abstract: it leads to asthma attacks, premature deaths, and nearly \$900 million annually in health-related costs.

Transitioning to zero-emission appliances like electric heat pumps offers wide-reaching benefits. Beyond cleaning our air, these modern appliances provide reliable heating, cooling, and improved indoor air quality, making homes more comfortable, resilient, and attractive to buyers. Contractors also value the potential to save customers money on their utility bills, given the projected savings of about \$30/month as calculated in a <a href="PCE/SVCE">PCE/SVCE</a> study. Homeowners and renters are increasingly demanding zero-emission equipment in their homes to protect their families and communities from harmful air pollution. Installing zero-emission equipment can be accomplished in the vast majority of homes, as increasingly cost-effective strategies and technologies make it easier than ever to install electric heat pumps.

The workforce is ready to install zero-emission heating equipment across the Bay Area.

However, it is critical that the Air District rules provide a clear market signal to contractors to enable this equipment transition at scale. Rules 9-6 and 9-4 provide that certainty to our workforce, ensuring that contractors will retrain and retool to install zero-emission water heaters and HVAC systems.

We recognize the importance of ensuring a smooth transition. Targeted amendments that provide exceptions and resources for low-income households as needed, plus flexibility for cases that are technically infeasible in the near term, are essential to make these rules equitable. At the same time, it is vital that these amendments do not weaken the rules or undermine the health and environmental benefits the rules are designed to deliver.

It is crucial that we invest in housing that supports clean air, healthy families, and long-term resilience. I urge you to demonstrate San Francisco's strong support of Rules 9-4 and 9-6 by passing this resolution, knowing that the Air District is working on common-sense adjustments that help all residents participate in this transition.

Thank you for your leadership in protecting our region's health and ensuring a healthier, more sustainable future for our housing and communities.

Sincerely,
Sam Fishman

**SPUR** 

Colleen Corrigan SPUR

Melissa Yu Sierra Club

## SPUR

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Monday, October 28th, 2025

San Francisco Board of Supervisors Legislative Chamber, Room 250 City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Re: Item 251064: Supporting the Bay Area Air District's Zero-Emission Building Appliance Rules

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There is a strong, realtor- and Republican-led opposition campaign that is underway and preparing for a fight to roll back the rules entirely or delay them. In the South Coast Air District, similar forces got cities to adopt resolutions opposing the zero-NOx rules, which may have played a persuasive role with board members. Supportive city resolutions like this one will help demonstrate to the Air District board that the Bay Area wants to move forward, and clean up our air in a timely manner.

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workforce, ensuring that contractors will retrain and retool to install zero-emission water heaters and HVAC systems.

We recognize the importance of ensuring a smooth transition. Targeted amendments that provide exceptions and resources for low-income households as needed, plus flexibility for cases that are technically infeasible in the near term, are essential to make these rules equitable. At the same time, it is vital that these amendments do not weaken the rules or undermine the health and environmental benefits the rules are designed to deliver.

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Thank you for your leadership in protecting our region's health and ensuring a healthier, more sustainable future for our housing and communities.

Sincerely,

Sam Fishman SPUR

Colleen Corrigan SPUR

Melissa Yu Sierra Club From: <u>Julie Lindow</u>

To: Chen, Chyanne (BOS); Melgar, Myrna (BOS); Mahmood, Bilal (BOS); Walton, Shamann (BOS); Chan, Connie

(BOS); Sauter, Danny (BOS); Dorsey, Matt (BOS); Fielder, Jackie (BOS); SherrillStaff

Cc: Mandelman, Rafael (BOS); Board of Supervisors (BOS)

**Subject:** Please vote YES on Item 251064 [Supporting the Bay Area Air District's Zero-Emission Building Appliance Rules]

**Date:** Friday, October 24, 2025 5:05:07 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

## Dear Supervisor,

I am writing to urge you to vote YES on the resolution supporting the Bay Area Air District's zero-emissions building appliance rules at your next BOS meeting on October 28.

The Bay Area has the sixth worst air pollution in the country, and our polluting gas appliances are a huge part of this problem, contributing to poor health, especially for children and elders, and higher health costs. That is why we need these new appliance standards. The Bay Area Air District's new zero-NOx appliance standards ensure that when gas appliances break down, they are replaced with modern, efficient heat pumps that slash both operating costs and pollution. These new standards align with where the market (and CA state regulation) is already headed—heat pumps are winning over customers and rapidly gaining market share because they're more efficient and they eliminate harmful air pollutants. This is all about cleaner air, safer homes, lower bills, and good jobs for local contractors—not protecting corporate polluter profits.

Unsurprisingly, the fossil fuel industry and its allies are attempting to block these clean air standards entirely to protect their profits. As people switch to efficient electric equipment, gas corporations sell less gas. As a result, we're already seeing the same deceptive misinformation campaigns popping up in the Bay Area that the industry has used elsewhere to scare and confuse residents and water down or even block strong air quality standards.

The Air District Board needs to hear from Bay Area leaders who support strong air quality standards and will stand up against corporate opposition. The Air District is already working to incorporate common-sense flexibility measures into the rules to ensure a smooth and equitable implementation for Bay Area residents. But they need the support of committed Bay Area leaders to keep these standards strong, as they amend the rules to ensure that implementation doesn't unduly burden Bay Area residents.

In addition to accelerating the adoption of zero-emission appliances, cutting deadly air pollution and helping to make energy bills more affordable, these rules will also give a big boost to San Francisco's efforts to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040, our official Climate Action Plan goal. Given the urgency of the climate crisis and the hostility of the current federal administration toward addressing climate change, it's more essential than ever that San Francisco stays on track to meet its climate goals and remains a strong national leader on climate. Without the boost these ground-breaking rules will provide—to the market, to the

State of California and to residents of our city—San Francisco would have a much more difficult time meeting its climate action goals. **Please vote YES on this resolution.** 

Thank you for your consideration.

Julie Lindow Steering Committee Member, SF Climate Emergency Coalition 516 1/2 Linden and 2024 Vicente, SF CA From: Susan Green

To: Chen, Chyanne (BOS); Melgar, Myrna (BOS); Mahmood, Bilal (BOS); Walton, Shamann (BOS); Chan, Connie

(BOS); Sauter, Danny (BOS); Dorsey, Matt (BOS); Fielder, Jackie (BOS); SherrillStaff

Cc: Mandelman, Rafael (BOS); Board of Supervisors (BOS)

**Subject:** Please vote YES on Item 251064 [Supporting the Bay Area Air District's Zero-Emission Building Appliance Rules]

**Date:** Friday, October 24, 2025 4:53:45 PM

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Dear Supervisor,

I am writing to urge you to vote YES on the resolution supporting the Bay Area Air District's zero-emissions building appliance rules at your next BOS meeting on October 28.

We need to lower bills, not air quality standards. The Bay Area Air District's new zero-NOx appliance standards ensure that when gas appliances break down, they are replaced with modern, efficient heat pumps that slash both operating costs and pollution. These new standards align with where the market (and CA state regulation) is already headed—heat pumps are winning over customers and rapidly gaining market share because they're more efficient and they eliminate harmful air pollutants. This is all about cleaner air, safer homes, lower bills, and good jobs for local contractors—not protecting corporate polluter profits.

Unsurprisingly, the fossil fuel industry and its allies are attempting to block these clean air standards entirely to protect their profits. As people switch to efficient electric equipment, gas corporations sell less gas. As a result, we're already seeing the same deceptive misinformation campaigns popping up in the Bay Area that the industry has used elsewhere to scare and confuse residents and water down or even block strong air quality standards.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Susan Green
Steering Committee Member, SF Climate Emergency Coalition
920 Diamond Street, SF 94114