

Dear Mr. Jonlin:

RE: Proposed Seattle Energy Code

I am writing in support of efforts SDCI is making to update the Seattle Energy Code to improve building carbon emission reductions. These efforts greatly help our city meet its greenhouse gas emission goals, since building emissions are a large part of Seattle's overall carbon emissions. These actions are vital to fight climate change for our health, our economy and our natural environment.

I agree with Holly Townes letter for the 43<sup>rd</sup> District Democrat Environmental Caucus, that the most effective way to cut greenhouse gas emissions is to stop using carbon-based fuels in heating buildings and water. I support changes in the code to stop the use of fossil fuels for heating, even though I live in an old Ballard house and improving energy efficiency in new housing will make my utilities seem obsolete when I sell.

I also advocate for stronger provisions to the code. The longer we delay reducing carbon emissions, the more difficult it will be to deal with impacts to our complex urban environment. Though the code changes will not be easy, it is far better to make meaningful changes while there is still time to mitigate some of the worse impacts from Seattle's carbon emissions.

I support expanding the restriction of fossil fuel for water heating, requiring heat pump water heaters, waste heat recovery or solar for water heating in buildings with high hot water use. These buildings, such as hospitals, restaurants, laundromats, motels, commercial laundry and other high users of hot water should be required and provided incentives to stop relying on fossil fuels for heating water. Making funds or credits available to building owners in anticipation of an early expansion of electric water heating requirements to high-intensity users can help make this requirement more palatable.

Thank you for doing this important work and looking to our future, positioning Seattle to reduce future carbon emissions from buildings.

Louise Kulzer  
Climate activist  
36<sup>th</sup> District home-owner & voter

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