

November 7, 2022

Monterey County Board of Supervisors
168 West Alisal St.
1st Floor
Salinas CA 93901

Dear Monterey County Board of Supervisors,

Monterey County LandWatch strongly supports the adoption of a county-wide ordinance requiring all new building construction to be all-electric (no natural gas) and include increased requirements for electric vehicle charging. Specifically, LandWatch strongly supports Board action to advance option 2.

2. Bring forward a County ordinance prohibiting the expansion of gas infrastructure in new construction and requiring new construction to be all-electric with increased requirements for electric vehicle charging.

Transportation and natural gas are two of the largest sources of emissions in Monterey County, as found in the recent Countywide Greenhouse Gas Inventory. This proposed reach code would begin the transition away from natural gas and facilitate electric vehicle ownership in the county.

The prohibition of natural gas expansion should be codified in a permanent ordinance rather than a reach code, in line with best practices set by cities like Berkeley and Santa Cruz. This will save county resources, including staff time, by avoiding necessary repetition with each building code cycle.

With these policies, we believe Monterey County can be a leader in moving toward a zero-carbon future.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Sanders
Deputy Director
Monterey County LandWatch