



A broad coalition is filing a citizens' initiative to protect natural gas as an energy choice and ensure energy stability and security in Washington.

Protecting energy choice for all

Natural gas delivers vital energy, warmth and comfort to millions of homes and supports the jobs and security of 100,000+ businesses, restaurants and institutions in Washington.

This initiative protects natural gas service as an energy choice by:

- Prohibiting the state and all local governments from banning, restricting or disincentivizing the use of natural gas in new or existing home or commercial buildings.
- Restricting the Washington state energy code from prohibiting, penalizing or discouraging the use of natural gas for heating, cooking or other appliances in any building.
- Barring the State Building Code Council (SBCC) from amending either the residential or non-residential energy code to prohibit, penalize, or discourage the use of natural gas for heating, cooking or other appliances in any building.
- Repealing various provisions of ESHB 1589 (2024), including:
 - The intent sec
 - Gas plant depreciation and utility service merger provisions
 - Restrictions on rebates for gas appliances
 - Electrification requirements in regions served by other electricity suppliers, and the severability clause.
- Preventing a regional clean air agency from prohibiting the use of natural gas.

Preserving natural gas for Washington's future

Recognizing the limitations of Washington's energy grid and the necessity to preserve both energy choice and security in Washington, the initiative:

- Clarifies that both municipal gas utilities and energy companies with a natural gas portfolio have an obligation to serve natural gas to customers who choose it, even if other energy sources are available.
- Prohibits the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) from approving a natural gas company's multiyear rate plan if it would limit or reduce natural gas service to customers who want it.
- Eliminates electrification elements of a large combination utility's integrated system plan (ISP) and prohibits the UTC from approving an ISP if it would limit or reduce natural gas service to customers who want it.

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