

Public Comments for 2024 IECC Appeals Hearing

I am writing today because I am a citizen of Colorado, and I—as well as my friends and family—are deeply concerned about our air quality here in Colorado and in our homes, and that is directly caused by how much pollution is being produced in our state and whether or not there are gas appliances in our homes. Air quality in Colorado is among the worst in the country, and rolling back these codes would make it even worse. Rates of asthma, including childhood asthma are alarming. 13% of Americans have been diagnosed with asthma, according to the American Lung Association. Pollution directly increases asthma rates. I, myself, as well as my husband, have had respiratory problems while here in Colorado that we never had while living in other states. We need to curb pollution, especially indoor pollution, if we want to see people's physical health improve.

Therefore, I support higher standards—which require strong energy codes—being enforced regarding companies that pollute, particularly energy companies, and I support bans or at least strong limitations on new gas hookups. These appeals by energy companies would strip out efficiency, affordability, and decarbonization measures. The appeals threaten to undo the hard work of code experts and efficiency advocates over the past three years. And because federal and state laws reference the IECC, this setback could affect homes and businesses nationwide.

Please, take your responsibility seriously to protect not only our nation's environment but truly your own fellow citizen's health and wellbeing. Do not weaken our protections. I urge you to reject appeals 23-01 through 23-09, which seek to overturn measures including electric readiness, EV charging readiness, efficient and resilient code requirements, stretch code appendices, and all-electric appendices. These appeals have no merit: they are trying to relitigate substantive, consensus decisions made according to all applicable policies and procedures as laid out in the ICC Code Development Principles.

-Celeste