

Submitter: Ruth Dallas

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB685

We absolutely need the Public Utility commission to oversee and hopefully deny investor owned utility corporations like NWN for using hydrogen blends in our gas lines. I have know about and been opposed to using hydrogen blends for some time but before submitting this testimony I reviewed the multiple studies of hyddrogen blends and I found exactly zero that supported using them in residential systems. This technology is far from ready for residential use and very likely will never be ready. My objections are many but the most significant are:

1. Most hydorgen used in the US is extracted using fossil fuels.
2. Hydorgen is a smaller molecule than methane and methane leaks from every part of the gas system from extraction to the indide of our homes. Hydrogen will leak more due to it's size and is likely to cuse flash backs and explosions. Plus customers will have to pay large fees to have their appliances retrofitted for these higher heat hydrogen flames.
- 3 We have lots of other ways to heat homes, water and cook our food that are more efficient. For example heat pumps are 300% more efficient than gas furnices and reduce up to 93% of emissions. It doesn't take an engineer to see that 93% is a heck of a lot better than the 1.5% reduction in emissions that hydrogen blends will produce.

I don't like to think that corporations wish to do us harm for profit but the only reason I have seen for using these mixes in residential areas at this time is to give gas corporations more time to expand their lines (which current customers will have to pay for) and to reap profits while they try to convince regulators that they will eventually reduce emissions and control risks. Meanwhile new customers will be left with useless appliances as pipes are coroded by hydrogen and corporations are unable to reduces emissions.