

**Draft Building Decarbonization EJAC Resolution**  
**Assembly Bill 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee**  
**June 9, 2025**

**For Discussion at the June 12, 2025, EJAC Public Meeting**

Whereas the EJAC recognizes that building decarbonization exists in the context of the housing and energy systems and that significant barriers—many of which are rooted in historically racist practices and disinvestment—including high levels of utility debt, rising housing costs, and barriers to high-road employment opportunities further prevent Environmental Justice communities from participating in and benefiting from building decarbonization efforts and other clean energy programs;

Whereas EJAC and many EJ formations including the Building Energy Equity and Power has consistently communicated concerns and recommendations to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) through various avenues, including, but not limited to: [a letter to CARB on June 24, 2022](#) outlining concerns with the zero-emission standards for new space and water heaters rulemaking when it was proposed as part of the 2022 Scoping Plan and 2022 State Implementation Plan; [a letter submitted with key allies to CARB on March 27, 2024](#) clearly outlining barriers to local outreach around building decarbonization, and additional requests including potential data and metrics to include in CARB's equity analysis in [a letter submitted to CARB on May 8, 2024](#);

Whereas the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Building Decarbonization Proceeding R.19-01-011, California Energy Commission (CEC) Equitable Building Decarbonization Program, and CARB Zero-Emission Appliance Standards include broad exemptions from beneficial standards and rely on burdensome incentive-based approaches without adequate solutions and funding to ensure frontline participation, resulting in policies and programs that effectively exclude frontline communities from the building decarbonization transition, investment, and benefits; whereas inequitable implementation is not only an equity issue, but a public safety concern, as reduced throughput in aging gas infrastructure increases the risks for those remaining on them; and whereas if policies and programs included and prioritized frontline community needs and concerns throughout policy and program development, these barriers and inequities could be identified earlier and be incorporated more fully;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that local communities shall be engaged from inception to evaluation of regulatory building decarbonization initiatives, including the provision of financially sustainable funding for local community-based organizations to engage in co-designing building decarbonization strategies and to provide culturally-specific outreach.

Be it further resolved that a collaborative process shall support the development and implementation of a comprehensive, statewide strategy for the phased deployment of appliance efficiency standards that are accessible to frontline communities. The strategy shall be

supported by a harmonized set of market-based and financial incentive mechanisms designed to facilitate equitable compliance and comprehensive statewide greenhouse gas emissions reductions in alignment with the state’s climate, air quality, and environmental justice goals.

Be it further resolved that CARB, CPUC, and CEC, shall engage in a transparent, accessible, and inclusive public stakeholder processes—including community and industry stakeholders as well as regular coordination meetings among regulatory agency staff—to ensure alignment, track implementation progress, and adjust strategies as necessary.

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