

From: [COLLINS Kristi * PUC](#)
To: [PUC PUC.FilingCenter * PUC](#); [PUC GR-COMMISSIONERS](#).
Subject: FW: UM 2178 Natural Gas Fact Finding
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:18:16 AM

Comments for UM 2178

Kristi

*** My email address has changed to kristi.collins@puc.oregon.gov – please update your address book ***

From: Rachel Seltz <rach.seltz@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 4:38 PM
To: PUC puc.publicmeetings * PUC <PUC.PUBLICMEETINGS@puc.oregon.gov>
Subject: UM 2178 Natural Gas Fact Finding

To Chair Decker and the members of the Commission,

I am writing to urge the OPUC to rapidly downsize Oregon's gas system. Please eliminate incentives for the expansion of gas infrastructure by ending gas line extension allowances. Gas in homes and buildings is a critical sector to focus on, as homes and buildings are the second largest source of climate pollution in Oregon after the transportation sector. Subsidies for fossil fuels must end, and be replaced by programs that help Oregonians improve the energy efficiency of their homes and transition to clean energy.

Before moving to Hillsboro, OR, I lived in Portland on NW 23rd street, very close to where the gas explosion occurred in October 2016. Although no one lost their life in that explosion, many people were injured, and many people lost their homes and businesses. I will never forget seeing the images of terrified day care providers evacuating babies, and walking by the burnt-out skeletons of the buildings that were destroyed. Natural gas is a dangerous product, and there is no reason to keep using it when we have the technology and ability to switch to clean energy today.

For the sake of profit, fossil fuel companies would like to keep us dependent on a dirty, outdated, and inefficient product that harms the health of people and the planet. Renewables are the energy of the future, and they hold the promise of good jobs, clean air and a liveable planet for all.

I implore the OPUC to do everything possible to transition Oregon off fossil fuels now.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Rachel Seltz
Hillsboro, OR
97124