

From: [COLLINS Kristi * PUC](#)
To: [PUC PUC.FilingCenter * PUC](#)
Cc: [PUC GR-COMMISSIONERS;](#) [HERB Kim * PUC](#)
Subject: FW: Comments on UM 2178 Natural Gas Fact Finding
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2022 7:33:59 PM

These comments came in at the end of the meeting.

Kristi

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

From: Beth Genly <ebgenly@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2022 7:27 PM
To: PUC puc.publicmeetings * PUC <PUC.PUBLICMEETINGS@puc.oregon.gov>
Subject: Comments on UM 2178 Natural Gas Fact Finding

Chair Decker, and Commissioners Tawney and Thompson, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I am Beth Genly, a retired nurse-midwife and a mom. I am a member of the Washington County chapter of [350.org](https://www.350.org).

Remember the massive fires in 2020? Remember how brown the air was? How miserable it was to breathe? The fear for our homes, and for the homes of our friends and family?

In 2020, the Oregon wildfire season was one of the most **destructive** ever. Those fires **killed** at least 11 people, burned more than **one million acres**, and destroyed **thousands of homes**. (CNBC)

Remember 2021's heat dome event? According to OPB, nearly 100 people died in Oregon.

This year, according to the national weather service, 15 counties in Southern Oregon already have received **drought** declarations from the Governor's office.

All of those events are strongly tied to climate change. Every year, we are given more and more personal reasons to take the most aggressive, proactive posture, resisting all pressure from fossil fuel companies to continue fossil fuel use.

- Buildings **can** be heated and cooled with affordable, safe energy sources that don't heat the planet.
- Relying on natural gas, even so-called renewable natural gas (which is all 95% methane) is risky and expensive.
- Our homes should be clean and safe, but burning and breathing methane is neither healthy nor safe.

I call on the commission to support the fastest possible phase out of natural gas use, and a full switchover to 100% clean energy, and also to avoid buying into greenwashing terms such as "renewable natural gas."

All of us are stakeholders where climate change is concerned. The costs of climate change caused by the continued use of fossil fuels are unconscionable. Thank you.

Beth Genly

Forest Grove, OR