

RESOLUTION NO. 25-059

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SBCOG) IN OPPOSITION TO SCAQMD RULES 1111 AND 1121.

WHEREAS, The South Coast Air Quality District (SCAQMD) is a regional air pollution control agency representing Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties with responsibility for regulating stationary sources of air pollution;

WHEREAS, The SCAQMD is considering two rules that would have a significant impact on up to 17 million South Coast homeowners, renters and businesses: Rule 1111 would regulate air emissions from gas-powered central furnaces; and Rule 1121 would regulate air emissions from residential-type, natural gas-powered water heaters;

WHEREAS, Rules 1111 and 1121 would impose high costs to consumers while providing limited measurable air quality benefits for the four-county SCAQMD service area;

WHEREAS, The two rules would ban the use of natural gas-powered furnaces and water heaters in new construction, taking effect in 2026. These rules would phase out existing natural gas furnaces and water heaters in existing single-family homes, multi-family housing, and businesses in 2027;

WHEREAS, Housing affordability is and will remain a top public policy priority for San Bernardino County for the foreseeable future. Local governments are being pressured to build more housing. Specifically, housing people can afford. Any regulations that increase these costs deserve scrutiny to ensure that the increased costs are met with an equal or more significant amount of benefit to the consumer;

WHEREAS, Unlike most SCAQMD rules that regulate large stationary sources of air pollution like oil refineries and warehouses, Rules 1111 and 1121 specifically target individual homeowners, apartment buildings, and businesses large and small, meaning that families and business owners will directly bear the costs of these two rules;

WHEREAS, Rules 1111 and 1121 would require retrofitting homes, apartments, and businesses with electrical panel upgrades, extensive new plumbing, and physical renovations to accommodate compliant units.

WHEREAS, For apartment owners, the cost to replace natural gas water heaters and furnaces with all-electric units will be passed down to tenants, leading to rent increases and placing additional financial pressure on renters in a region already struggling with housing affordability;

WHEREAS, Rules 1111 and 1121 will increase electricity demands. Transitioning to all-electric water heaters and furnaces means an increased demand on an electric grid that has not proven capable of consistently meeting existing demand. Water heaters and furnaces are essential elements in any house, apartment, or business. Millions of new electric water heaters and furnaces would draw power from the grid and raise the risk of power brownouts or outages.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of SBCOG:

1. Rules 1111 and 1121 will have a profound impact and impose significant costs on millions of Southern California homeowners, renters and businesses, and
2. SBCOG opposes Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121 and urges the SCAQMD to indefinitely delay or cease consideration of these two anti-consumer regulations immediately.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the San Bernardino Council of Governments held on January 8, 2025.



Ray Marquez, Board President
San Bernardino Council of Governments

ATTEST:



Marleana Roman, Clerk of the Board
San Bernardino Council of Governments