

Faye Thomas

From: Jimmy Saldana <jsaldana@cityofhighland.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 8:26 PM
To: Clerk of Board
Cc: Public Advisor
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Proposed Rules 1111 and 1121 – On Behalf of District 2, City of Highland

To AQMD Governing Board,

My name is Jimmy Saldana, and I am a resident of Highland and the appointed Councilman for District 2 in the City of Highland. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121 regarding residential gas furnaces and water heaters.

These rules would create a serious financial burden for many residents in my district—working families, seniors on fixed incomes, and small landlords who simply can't afford the steep costs associated with forced electric upgrades. Replacing a broken gas furnace or water heater shouldn't come with a \$10,000+ price tag, yet under these rules, that could be the reality.

These mandates also make our communities dependent on a single energy source—electricity—at a time when our power grid is already under stress. We've all experienced blackouts, high utility bills, and energy uncertainty. Removing gas as an option puts families at risk of losing heat or hot water during grid failures, especially in extreme weather conditions.

While I support efforts to improve air quality, they must be balanced, practical, and considerate of the economic realities our residents face. These rules are being rushed without enough public awareness or financial support, and the consequences will fall hardest on those who can least afford them.

I urge the board to vote no on June 6 or, at the very least, delay adoption until more outreach and community input can take place. There are cleaner technologies and better paths forward that don't involve punishing working-class residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jimmy Saldana
Appointed Councilman, District 2
City of Highland, CA

Regards,
Jimmy



Jimmy Saldana

Councilman - District 2

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