November 01, 2021

Mayor and City Council
Del Mar City Hall
1050 Camino del Mar
Del Mar, CA 92014

RE: Climate Action Campaign Support for Del Mar All-Electric Reach Code

Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers,

On behalf of Climate Action Campaign (CAC), we support the City of Del Mar developing and approving an all-electric reach code.

CAC is a climate and environmental nonprofit organization based in San Diego and Orange County with a simple mission: to stop the climate crisis through effective policy action. CAC is also a member of the San Diego Building Electrification Coalition working to bring an all-electric future to the San Diego region.

The climate emergency demands bold action to stop the worst impacts from occurring, and all communities must reach a zero carbon future by 2035 or earlier to have any chance at stopping the climate crisis. Building any new fossil fuel infrastructure today prevents us from achieving that goal and stopping climate change. Thankfully, Del Mar can begin to reduce emissions from the region’s third largest source of climate pollution—methane gas.

Methane gas is a highly potent greenhouse gas and a dangerous indoor air pollutant, destroying our climate and harming families by worsening asthma and other cardiovascular disorders. Del Mar must do everything in its power to protect our families, climate, and public health from the expansion of methane gas and dangerous fossil fuel infrastructure. An all-electric reach code can do just that.

Additionally, we recommend Del Mar develop an all-electric municipal retrofit plan to inventory, retrofit, and green city facilities to remove dangerous methane gas from government buildings and exemplify an all-electric future. It should also plan for a robust community engagement process to share why an all-electric future is critical to our climate and health.

We also encourage Del Mar to partake in ongoing regional conversations on how our communities can ensure a Just Transition for fossil fuel workers in collaboration with our friends in labor. As reach codes are considered, the City should engage with organized labor, listen to their concerns and ideas, and answer their questions on how future all-electric efforts may impact their workers.
We hope Del Mar will join the 50 other California cities that have adopted all-electric reach codes, and approve a reach code with a minimal number of fossil fuel exemptions to keep our families, climate, and public health safe.

We thank City leadership for moving this important climate and public health issue forward, and look forward to partnering on this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

Matthew Vasilakis
Co-Director of Policy
Climate Action Campaign