



# CITY OF DEL MAR

## BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION FACTS, ANSWERS AND QUESTIONS (FAQs)

### 1. What is Building Electrification?

Building electrification is the act of installing electric heating and cooking equipment, such as induction cooktops, heat pump water heaters, and heat pump space conditioning systems.

### 2. Why is building electrification important?

**Climate:** Building electrification significantly reduces carbon dioxide emissions and provides a necessary strategy to help California meet its decarbonization goals. California Senate Bill 100 requires 60% of California’s electricity be generated from renewable resources by 2030. Electricity generation must be 100% carbon-free by 2045.

**Cost Savings:** The current cost of electricity vs gas (per unit) depends on many variables, however modern electric technology (e.g., induction cooktops and heat pumps) is much more efficient and should lower utility bills overall. Electric appliances are three to five times as efficient as gas models. High-efficiency electric appliances may save customers money every month. In new construction, cost savings will be realized by not installing gas infrastructure.

**Health:** Natural gas delivery systems can leak carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides, which leads to poor indoor air quality. Reducing natural gas emissions improves the health and well-being of Californians.

### 3. Why are developers and builders making the switch to all electric?

#### Prepare for Future

**Requirements:** Builders consistently adapt to shifting market demands and evolving

California building codes. Adopting advanced building practices is a first step toward reducing carbon emissions and increasing energy efficiency. Starting in 2030, gas heating and water heating equipment will no longer be sold in California.

**Lower Construction Costs:** Constructing an all-electric building is typically less expensive than a mixed-fuel building relying on gas, regardless of location, because all-electric buildings do not require new gas infrastructure.

**Alternatives to Gas Appliances:** Electrification provides an opportunity to install more efficient technology, like induction cooktops, heat pump water heating, heat pump dryers, and heat pump space heating and cooling.

**Solar:** Rooftop solar is mandated for new construction in California, so all electric uses during the day are powered for free by the sun.

