

**International
Electrical**



**Brotherhood
Workers**

AFL-CIO

Local Union No. 332

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November 7, 2019

Re: 2019 California Energy Code - Local Amendments (Reach Codes)

Dear City Council Member:

Each local government is required by law to adopt new changes to the California Building Standards Code every three years (known as code cycles) proposed by the State. The next code cycle will take effect January 1, 2020. This creates an opportunity to simultaneously adopt optional local building code amendments (known as Reach Codes) that exceed state code standards.

Historically, cities/counties sometimes adopt amendments to the Energy (Title 24, Part 6) and California Green Building Standards - CAL Green (Title 24, Part 11) codes to meet local environmental goals or aspirations.

This creates a significant Reach Code opportunity to reduce future GHG in new buildings by discouraging or eliminating the use of natural gas. This can be accomplished by incentivizing and/or requiring new buildings to use more electric appliances to utilize the clean renewable electricity available rather than natural gas.

Cities across the region are recognizing that all-electric homes and EVs reduce production of greenhouse gases (CHG) and provide healthier and safer homes and transportation at reduced cost.

Moving to all-electric homes is an important step for our economy and IBEW Local 332 is taking aggressive steps to ensure that we have trained workforce to address this need.

The IBEW Local 332 has been training men and women as electricians for over 100 years in Santa Clara County. The training requirements to become a journeyman electrician is based on a five (5) year apprenticeship program that focuses on installation, safety, compliance with Federal, State and County Codes and design of all electrical systems. As the future unfolds, IBEW Local 332 is transforming training objectives to meet with the innovations for electrification of homes with a conscious focus on controlling cost and energy. How is this being done? Through training in smarter, controlled based devices in lighting, which consumes 48% of the energy in a home. Through training and installation of advance designs and control of HYAC systems and home appliance, which are the highest consumers of energy in homes. Through training on the installation and maintenance of solar panels that can now be integrated into the roof designs of homes. Finally, through the installation of electric vehicle charging stations, since the growth of electric cars is predicted to increase from the current 3 million to 125 million cars by 2030 according to the International Energy Agency.

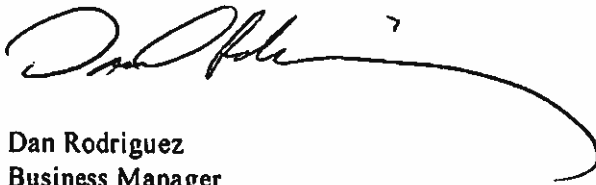
Each one of these areas represent only a small portion of the training each electrician receives as an apprentice and through journeymen upgrade courses. Additionally, IBEW Local 332 journeymen meet the State of California requirements for certification to work on homes, industrial/commercial buildings, and public transportation sites and receive added certifications for specialized training on lighting controls, electric vehicle charging stations, building automations, and the list goes on.

We are pleased to be at the forefront of the effort to ensure that Santa Clara County will have the workforce needed to deliver high quality electrical service and installation of innovative technologies such as heat-pump water heaters, induction stoves, and electric vehicle charging to meet these needs.

We encourage the City Council to adopt building reach codes to accelerate cleaner, safer and lower cost homes and transportation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If there is any way that IBEW 332 can be of assistance on this or other matters, please do not hesitate to call.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Rodriguez', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Dan Rodriguez
Business Manager
IBEW Local 332