

## **Draft Proposal for City of Ashland Fossil Gas Policy**

The City of Ashland's 2017 Climate Energy Action Plan (CEAP) mandates 'Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions' through 'Support of cleaner energy sources' together with 'Promote switching to low and non-carbon fuels'.

The Climate Policy Commission (CPC) will work with the City Staff to develop a policy on short term and long-term Fossil Gas Use that is consistent with the CEAP goals and strategies.

A policy on Fossil Gas Use is needed to provide direction for the current and future use of fossil gas by City Operations and the Community while also providing support for implementation of 'electrifying' Ashland.

The declaration of a Fossil Gas Policy could result in actions similar to the ones taken by Eugene and over 40 cities in California and the State of Washington that are helping to achieve building decarbonization through all electric construction.

Below are Eugene's Recommended Additional Actions to Close the Fossil Fuel and GHG Gaps. Any actions taken by Ashland would be specifically tailored to its circumstances.

Sector-based Actions (fossil fuel only):

Natural Gas in buildings actions (from Regulation of Natural Gas work session)

Action 1: Limit or prohibit new natural gas infrastructure.

Action 2: Require NWNG to incentivize customers' reduced use of natural gas or customers' purchase of emission offsets provided by NWNG's Smart Energy Program.

Action 3: Regulate the purchase and installation of natural gas fueled appliances.

Action 4: Prohibit financial incentives for installing natural gas service.

Action 5: Prohibit financial incentives for purchasing natural gas appliances.

Action 6: Prohibit installation of natural gas service for new residential, commercial and/or industrial buildings.

Action 7: Require NWNG to fuel switch to biogas and renewable hydrogen.

Action 8: Increase franchise fee and dedicate franchise fee funds to implementing a program that provides incentives to switch from natural gas to renewable.

Action 9: Reduce the term of the franchise from 20 years to 10 years.

Action 10: Create a hybrid franchise fee structure: 1) fixed portion; and 2) variable fee based on carbon footprint of the natural gas delivered to the community.

Action 11: Prohibit the expansion of natural gas services unless NWNG can demonstrate plans to decarbonize its product.