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Via email to mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Motion to Commit to Affordable Energy in the City of Vancouver

I am writing in support of the motion put forth by Councilor De Genova, which commits the City of Vancouver to affordable energy.

Hundreds of thousands of Vancouver residents depend on natural gas every day for their homes and businesses.

Natural gas is one of the cleanest-burning fossil fuels available and has an important role to play in helping British Columbia meet its emissions reduction targets. Every day, we're using this abundant resource to drive our economy, create local jobs and keep energy costs low.

We are proud to offer many programs that help our customers reduce their energy use. In fact, we have invested more than \$80-million dollars in rebates and other energy-saving incentive programs across B.C. over the last three years.

At one-third the cost of electricity, natural gas is the least expensive option for space and water heating for B.C. homes and businesses. As other costs of living continue to rise, natural gas has become an increasingly affordable option for the past decade. Since space heating and water heating together represent about 78 per cent of home energy costs, using a less expensive energy source can make a huge difference on monthly bills. Additionally, natural gas appliance technology has advanced dramatically, and today space heating systems are up to 98 per cent efficient.

We see this motion as an opportunity for the City to reinforce its statements that it is not banning natural gas. If passed, the motion will also help to maintain affordable energy bills in Vancouver. Therefore, we urge Mayor and Council to pass Councilor De Genova's motion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas L. Stout", written over a horizontal line.

Douglas L. Stout
Vice President
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