

Social Media Post Against Amendment 82

Beware of "Right To Natural Gas" Amendment 82!

The upcoming November Colorado state ballot will have a dangerous and deceptive initiative on it, Amendment 82, "Right to Natural Gas", which may seem harmless, but it's not. It's a blatant attempt by the fossil fuel industry to put barriers into our state constitution to make it difficult, if not impossible, to prevent developers and utilities from installing methane gas supplies to new developments. It's sparsely worded on purpose. A recent example of this is a development in Aurora with 25,000 homes, to which Xcel was requesting last year a natural gas supply line (five miles long, costing \$23 million), which would have caused higher bills for all Xcel customers to cover the cost, while allowing 25,000 additional homes to spew yet more carbon with equipment that will be obsolete in the near future.

At this point, every pound of carbon emitted matters, and the sooner we get off methane gas and other fossil fuels, and construct only all-electric buildings powered with renewable energy, the better. However, Amendment 82 isn't even about that. It's about whether we should let monopoly utilities and corporate polluters write themselves into our constitution permanently. The reality is that renewables are less profitable than fossil fuels, not to us home owners, but to traditional energy companies, which is why we can expect Xcel and big oil to fight this transition at every turn. Natural gas is already legal, so this change is completely unnecessary, and would only complicate our state constitution. No pollution in the constitution: Vote no on Amendment 82!