



April 2nd, 2024

TO: House Energy and Environment Committee: Cathy Kipp, Jenny Willford
Scott Bottoms, Ken DeGraaf, Gabe Evans, Meg Froelich, Junie Joseph, Manny Rutinel, Brianna Titone, Alex Valdez, Elizabeth Velasco, Stephanie Vigil, Ty Winter

TO: Bill Sponsors: Representatives Kathy Kipp and Jenny Willford

RE: CRES Supports HB24-1370 | Reduce Cost of Use of Natural Gas –

CRES is a nonpartisan, science-based nonprofit with a reach of thousands of Coloradans annually. The CRES Policy Committee brings together a broad range of energy policy and technology experts who review energy bills before the Colorado state legislature to provide our perspective.

CRES fully supports HB24-1370. It is vital we enable as many communities as possible to work with the CEO and their utility to explore projects that provide alternatives to gas and to target decommissioning of even a portion, if not all, of the gas distribution system, and avoids expanding gas infrastructure for all new construction projects.

HB24-1370 is a perfect complement to the Clean Heat Bill passed in 2021 (SB21-264). The Clean Heat Bill requires gas utilities to adopt programs that encourage the utility and customers to reduce emissions related to the utility's natural gas system and customer's gas-based appliances and heating systems. CRES is an intervenor in Xcel's inaugural Clean Heat Plan Proceeding before the Colorado PUC, and has submitted testimony on the environmental and health problems associated with using natural gas in the home (for space and water heating, and cooking). This bill is a step in the right direction, and we believe that all new construction in Colorado should be all electric, and we need to work hard to reduce natural gas use in both new and existing homes.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Vincent Calvano
Chair, CRES Policy Committee