



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

AGENDA

Hazardous Materials Commission

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

4:00 PM

777 Arnold Dr., Martinez, CA 94553 -
Paramount Room

<https://zoom.us/j/99128939868>

Phone: 1 (669) 444-9171

Meeting ID: 991 2893 9868

Planning & Policy Committee

Committee Chair: Jim Payne

Committee Vice Chair: Eduardo Martinez

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions
2. CONSIDER approval of the February 19, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Planning and Policy Committee meeting minutes. [25-3769](#)
Attachments: [HMC P&P February 19 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes](#)
3. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

NEW BUSINESS

4. DISCUSS SB 684 & AB 1243 and the attached resolutions and CONSIDER making a recommendation to the full commission. [25-3770](#)

AB1243 | California 2025-2026 | Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025. |
TrackBill [trackbill.com]

SB684 | California 2025-2026 | Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025. |
TrackBill [trackbill.com]

Attachments: [SF Resolution - SB 684](#)
[LA Resolution - SB 684](#)

5. DISCUSS the Stanford report and related article regarding the dangers of gas stoves and CONSIDER making a recommendation to the full commission. [25-3771](#)

Attachments: [110 Stanford report on gas stoves](#)
[100 Gas stoves increase cancer risk, especially for kids,... _Canary Media](#)

6. DISCUSS the expiring terms for Business Seat #2 and Environmental Engineering Firms. [25-3772](#)

Attachments: [2025 HMC Roster - Terms and Committees](#)

7. Announcements from commissioners on items of commission interest.

8. Plan next meeting agenda.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for November 19th at 4:00 PM.

Adjourn

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1220 Morello Avenue, Suite 200, Martinez, CA 94553, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact: Adam Springer at 925-655-3216



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-3769

Agenda Date: 9/17/2025

Agenda #: 2.

Advisory Board: Hazardous Materials Commission Planning & Policy Committee

Subject: February 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Presenter: Committee Chair

Information:

Attached to this agenda item are the draft meeting minutes from the February 19, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Planning and Policy Committee.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

CONSIDER approval of the February 19, 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Planning and Policy Committee meeting minutes.



Meeting Minutes - Draft

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Hazardous Materials Commission

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

4:00 PM

777 Arnold Dr., Martinez, CA 94553 -

Paramount Room

<https://zoom.us/j/99128939868>

Phone: 1 (669) 444-9171

Meeting ID: 991 2893 9868

Planning and Policy Committee

Chair: Mark Hughes

Vice Chair: Jim Payne

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Commissioners Present: Mark Hughes, Jim Payne, Ronald Chinn, Eduardo Martinez, Frank Qin, Lisa Martell,

Present Online: Carol Mascali (Supervisor Anderson's Office)

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

There were not any comments made by members of the public.

3. The commissioners present voted to approve the October 16, 2024 Hazardous Materials Commission Planning and Policy Committee meeting minutes.

Motion: Jim Payne

Second: Eduardo Martinez

4. The commissioners present received a legislative update on issues that may be of interest to the Commission from Hazardous Materials Programs Assistant Director Adam Springer.

Key points: Changes to the petroleum refinery process safety management standards rulemaking - will be discussed further during full commission meeting on February 27, 2025.

5. The commissioners present reviewed the Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Incident Notification Policy and discussed all changes that occurred on January 15, 2025.
<https://www.cchealth.org/health-and-safety-information/hazmat-programs/community-warning-system/level-1-community-awareness-messaging>
<https://www.cchealth.org/hazdash>
Key points: concerns around language used to differentiate between the different levels (level 1 does not specify off site or on site); Dashboard - anticipating an increase in notifications due to changes such as including level 0 notifications
6. The commissioners present reviewed the 2025 Hazardous Materials Commission Priorities that were assigned to the Planning and Policy Committee and discussed a plan of action
Assigned priorities: continue monitoring general plan, community warning system (CWS) notification, aviation fuel changes
Key points: Would like a guest speaker on PFAS during the April meeting. Lisa will reach out to her contact at Twelve - hopefully presenting in May
7. The commissioners present discussed committee chair elections and voted to approve a Planning and Policy Committee Chair and Vice Chair for 2025.
Chair: Jim Payne
Motion: Ronald Chinn
Second: Eduardo Martinez
Vice Chair: Eduardo Martinez
Motion: Lisa Martell
Second: Jim Payne
8. The commissioners present discussed the commissioner terms that will be expiring this year (Business Seat #2 & Environmental Engineer)
Commissioners expiring: Mark Hughes, Amy McTigue, Ronald Chinn
Key points: Will circle back to this closer to September, Adam will confirm timeline/posting requirements based on bylaws
9. Reports from Commissioners on items of Commission interest.

Commissioner Payne discussed his concerns around the CalOSHA/ WSPA lawsuit, Commissioner Plurkowski is drafting a letter and they encourage voicing your opinion at the CalOSHA standards board meeting.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for April 16, 2025 at 4:00PM.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 PM.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-3770

Agenda Date: 9/17/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Advisory Board: Hazardous Materials Commission Planning & Policy Committee

Subject: SB 684 & AB 1243

Presenter: Committee Chair

Information:

Attached to this agenda item are resolutions from the cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco regarding SB 684 & AB 1243. Links to the bills are included below for addition information.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

DISCUSS SB 684 & AB 1243 and the attached resolutions and CONSIDER making a recommendation to the full commission

[AB1243 | California 2025-2026 | Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025. | TrackBill \[trackbill.com\]](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://trackbill.com/bill/california-assembly-bill-1243-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671926/__;!!LFxATBw!BIAAD6qRA0L3If2AUZM1RM12iN8lBFbu1jjZcKGB84QZI4Ekn_isW7jx815Ue27GLxwgC4ogajqG$>)
<[https://urldefense.com/v3/](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://trackbill.com/bill/california-assembly-bill-1243-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671926/__;!!LFxATBw!BIAAD6qRA0L3If2AUZM1RM12iN8lBFbu1jjZcKGB84QZI4Ekn_isW7jx815Ue27GLxwgC4ogajqG$>) [https://trackbill.com/bill/california-assembly-bill-1243-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671926/](https://trackbill.com/bill/california-assembly-bill-1243-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671926/__;!!LFxATBw!BIAAD6qRA0L3If2AUZM1RM12iN8lBFbu1jjZcKGB84QZI4Ekn_isW7jx815Ue27GLxwgC4ogajqG$>) __;!!LFxATBw!
[SB684 | California 2025-2026 | Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025. | TrackBill \[trackbill.com\]](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://trackbill.com/bill/california-senate-bill-684-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671654/__;!!LFxATBw!BIAAD6qRA0L3If2AUZM1RM12iN8lBFbu1jjZcKGB84QZI4Ekn_isW7jx815Ue27GLxwgC6hzJ11j$>)
<[https://urldefense.com/v3/](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://trackbill.com/bill/california-senate-bill-684-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671654/__;!!LFxATBw!BIAAD6qRA0L3If2AUZM1RM12iN8lBFbu1jjZcKGB84QZI4Ekn_isW7jx815Ue27GLxwgC6hzJ11j$>) [https://trackbill.com/bill/california-senate-bill-684-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671654/](https://trackbill.com/bill/california-senate-bill-684-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671654/__;!!LFxATBw!BIAAD6qRA0L3If2AUZM1RM12iN8lBFbu1jjZcKGB84QZI4Ekn_isW7jx815Ue27GLxwgC6hzJ11j$>) __;!!LFxATBw!
[BIAAD6qRA0L3If2AUZM1RM12iN8lBFbu1jjZcKGB84QZI4Ekn_isW7jx815Ue27GLxwgC6hzJ11j\\$>](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://trackbill.com/bill/california-senate-bill-684-polluters-pay-climate-superfund-act-of-2025/2671654/__;!!LFxATBw!BIAAD6qRA0L3If2AUZM1RM12iN8lBFbu1jjZcKGB84QZI4Ekn_isW7jx815Ue27GLxwgC6hzJ11j$>)

Re: SB 684



City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 250364

Date Passed: April 15, 2025

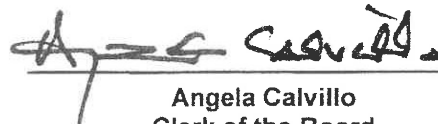
Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 684, introduced by Senator Caroline Menjivar, and Assembly Bill No. 1243, introduced by Assembly Member Dawn Addis, to address the climate crisis in California by shifting the burden of increased taxpayer costs away from California residents and small businesses to fossil fuel companies that have created the climate crisis.

April 15, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

File No. 250364

I hereby certify that the foregoing
Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/15/2025 by
the Board of Supervisors of the City and
County of San Francisco.


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

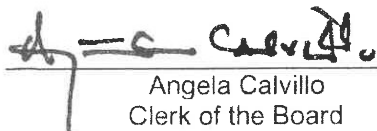
Unsigned

Daniel Lurie
Mayor

4/25/2025

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

4/25/2025

Date

[Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 684 (Menjivar; Allen, Gonzalez, Stern, Wiener) and Assembly Bill No. 1243 (Addis; Garcia, Kalra, Haney) - The Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act]

Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 684, introduced by Senator Caroline Menjivar, and Assembly Bill No. 1243, introduced by Assembly Member Dawn Addis, to address the climate crisis in California by shifting the burden of increased taxpayer costs away from California residents and small businesses to fossil fuel companies that have created the climate crisis.

WHEREAS, Climate change is increasing the frequency and severity of climate disasters across California, including devastating wildfires, extreme heat events, floods, hurricane-force winds, droughts, mud slides, and sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, The 2025 Palisades and Eaton fires in Los Angeles alone caused over \$250 billion in damages, burning 58.5 square miles of land and destroying 16,200 structures, resulting in the displacement of tens of thousands of families; and

WHEREAS, A series of atmospheric rivers that impacted Northern California in 2024 caused \$4.5 billion in damages; and

WHEREAS, Major fossil fuel companies have emitted billions of tons of climate warming gasses while generating billions of dollars in profits from products they knew were driving the climate crisis and climate-related catastrophes; and

WHEREAS, California has a long and successful history of holding industries accountable for the harm of their operations and the impacts of their products through Extended Producer Responsibility laws, litigation, and other means; and

WHEREAS, The Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act addresses the financial injustices imposed on taxpayers and working families from climate-related disasters by requiring fossil

1 fuel polluters to offset the costs imposed on the taxpayer for the damage caused and
2 enhanced by their products; and

3 WHEREAS, The Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act will ensure polluters pay to
4 remedy at least some portion of the burdens they have imposed on Californians, all while
5 amassing exorbitant profits; and

6 WHEREAS, The Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act is modeled on the federal
7 Superfund law (CERCLA) and California's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act; and

8 WHEREAS, The bill is distinct from, complementary to, and does not affect ongoing
9 lawsuits to hold Big Oil accountable for their decades of deception and denial regarding the
10 known, dire risks their products pose; and

11 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 684 and Assembly Bill No. 1243 are sponsored by a broad
12 array of state legislators, consumer advocates, environmental organizations, and unions,
13 including the Center for Biological Diversity, California Environmental Voters, Physicians for
14 Social Responsibility, California Federation of Teachers, and the California Nurses
15 Association; and

16 WHEREAS, With the passage of Senate Bill No. 684 and Assembly Bill No. 1243,
17 California would join Vermont and New York, the first states to pass climate superfund laws
18 last year; now therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
20 supports Senate Bill No. 684 and Assembly Bill No. 1243; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges our local delegation
22 representing San Francisco in the State Legislature to support SB 684/AB 1243 and further
23 urges the California State Legislature and Governor Gavin Newsom to sign Senate Bill No.
24 684 and Assembly Bill No. 1243 into law; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall send a copy of this Resolution
2 to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro-Tempore Mike McGuire, Speaker of the State
3 Assembly Robert Rivas, and the offices of San Francisco's State delegation.
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Re:

SB 684

Superfund Act of 2025

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, climate change has presented a number of reoccurring issues for the City of Los Angeles, and the State of California as a whole, such as increasing the likelihood of fire weather conditions by intensifying drought and drying vegetation, along with increased risk of other natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, across the state, local governments and taxpayers are bearing immense and mounting costs of rebuilding from damage caused by climate change, increased insurance premiums, property taxes, and utility bills. State and local budgets are impacted as climate risks rise, jeopardizing public services, and forcing communities to carry the burden to address climate-related emergencies; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before both houses of the State Legislature, are two companion bills, Assembly Bill 1243 (Addis) and Senate Bill 684 (Menjivar), which seek to create the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025 (Act); and

WHEREAS, the bills would establish the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Program (Program) to be administered by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and require the largest fossil fuel polluters to pay for environmental and health damages suffered by Californians as a result of their emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Act will direct CalEPA to complete a climate cost study to quantify total damages to the state (through 2045), caused by past fossil fuel emissions, and to identify responsible parties and assess compensatory fees on the largest fossil fuel polluters proportional to their fossil fuel emissions from 1990 through 2024, to address damages quantified in the cost study, and directs that fees collected will fund projects and programs to mitigate disaster-related rate increases for Californians and remedy or prevent climate-related costs and harms; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Act advances California's commitment to equity and environmental justice by directing at least 40% of funds from the Program to go to disadvantaged communities. The funds will support urgently-needed projects such as implementing wildfire prevention measures like home hardening, upgrading stormwater management systems to prevent flooding, and installing solar panels and energy storage systems to reduce energy costs and increase resilience during power outages. Additionally, these funds



MAY 16 2025

could help develop urban green spaces to mitigate heat islands and improve air quality. It could fund programs to support first responders and additional workers who provide essential services during climate disasters; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles should support the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025 because it proposes to shift the burden of paying for the high costs of climate change recovery from California taxpayers to the businesses that have profited off the fossil fuel industry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-2026 State Legislative Program support for both AB 1243 (Addis) and SB 684 (Menjivar), the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025, which would establish a framework for fossil fuel polluters to pay their fair share of the costs of climate damages, adaptation, and mitigation.

PRESENTED BY: _____


KATY YAROSLAVSKY
Councilwoman, 5th District

SECONDED BY: _____



ORIGINAL



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-3771

Agenda Date: 9/17/2025

Agenda #: 5.

Advisory Board: Hazardous Materials Commission Planning & Policy Committee

Subject: Dangers of Gas Stoves

Presenter: Committee Chair

Information:

Attached to this agenda item is a Stanford report on the dangers of gas stoves as well as an article discussing the same topic.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

DISCUSS the Stanford report and related article regarding the dangers of gas stoves and CONSIDER making a recommendation to the full commission.



June 16th, 2023 | 4 min read

Science & Engineering

Study finds combustion from gas stoves can raise indoor levels of chemical linked to a higher risk of blood cell cancers

About 47 million homes use natural gas or propane-burning cooktops and ovens. Stanford researchers found that cooking with gas stoves can raise indoor levels of the carcinogen benzene above those found in secondhand smoke.

A chemical linked to a higher risk of leukemia and other blood cell cancers creeps into millions of homes whenever residents light their gas stoves. A new Stanford-led analysis finds that a single gas cooktop burner on high or a gas oven set to 350 degrees Fahrenheit can raise indoor levels of the carcinogen benzene above those in secondhand tobacco smoke. Benzene also drifts throughout a home and lingers for hours in home air, according to the **paper** published June 15 in *Environmental Science & Technology*.

 Go to the web site to view the video.

“Benzene forms in flames and other high-temperature environments, such as the flares found in oil fields and refineries. We now know that benzene also forms in the flames of gas stoves in our homes,” said study senior author **Rob Jackson**, the Michelle and Kevin Douglas Provostial Professor and professor of Earth system science at the **Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability**. “Good ventilation helps reduce pollutant concentrations, but we found that exhaust fans were often ineffective at eliminating benzene exposure.”

Worse than secondhand smoke

Overall, the researchers found that indoor concentrations of benzene formed in the flames of gas stoves can be worse than average concentrations from secondhand smoke, that benzene can migrate into other rooms far from the kitchen, and that concentrations measured in bedrooms can exceed national and international health benchmarks. They also found residential range hoods are not always effective at reducing concentrations of benzene and other pollutants, even when the hoods vent outdoors.

The new paper is the first to analyze benzene emissions when a stove or oven is in use. Previous studies focused on leaks from stoves when they are off, and did not directly measure resulting benzene concentrations. The researchers found gas and propane burners and ovens emitted 10 to 50 times more benzene than electric stoves. Induction cooktops emitted no detectable benzene whatsoever. The rates of benzene emitted during combustion were hundreds of times higher than benzene emission rates identified in other recent studies from unburned gas leaking into homes.

The researchers also tested whether foods being cooked emit benzene and found zero benzene emissions from pan-frying salmon or bacon. All benzene emissions the investigators measured came from the fuel used rather than any food cooked.

A **previous Stanford-led study** showed that gas-burning stoves inside U.S. homes leak methane with a climate impact comparable to the carbon dioxide emissions from about 500,000 gasoline-powered cars. They also expose users to pollutants, such as nitrogen dioxide, which can trigger respiratory diseases. A 2013 **meta-analysis** concluded that children who live in homes with gas stoves had a 42% greater risk of asthma than children living in homes without gas stoves, and a 2022 analysis calculated that **12.7% of childhood asthma in the U.S. is attributable to gas stoves**.

without a gas stove.”

Jackson is also a senior fellow at the **Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment** and the **Precourt Institute for Energy**. Study co-authors also include **Metta Nicholson** and **Colin Finnegan**, environmental science research professionals in Stanford’s Earth System Science Department; **Zutao Ouyang**, a physical science research associate in Stanford’s Earth System Science Department; and researchers at PSE Healthy Energy, the University of California, Berkeley, and Lawrence Berkeley National Lab.

The study was funded by the High Tide Foundation.

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open window, relatively low-cost approaches to reducing exposure to pollutants from gas stoves include:

- Use portable induction cooktops, which can be found for less than \$50 new.
- Use electric kitchenware, such as tea kettles, toaster ovens, and slow cookers.
- Where available, take advantage of state and local rebates as well as low- or no-interest loans (such as these programs for [California](#) and the [San Francisco Bay Area](#)) to offset the cost of replacing gas appliances.
- [Federal tax credits](#) are available now, and [federal rebates](#) should be available later this year or sometime in 2024 to help offset the cost of replacing gas appliances.

Media Contacts

Rob Jackson, Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability: (650) 497-5841, rob.jackson@stanford.edu

Yannai Kashtan, Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability: (510) 224-3195, yska@stanford.edu

Rob Jordan, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment: (650) 721-1881, rjordan@stanford.edu

Author

Rob Jordan

Campus unit

Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability

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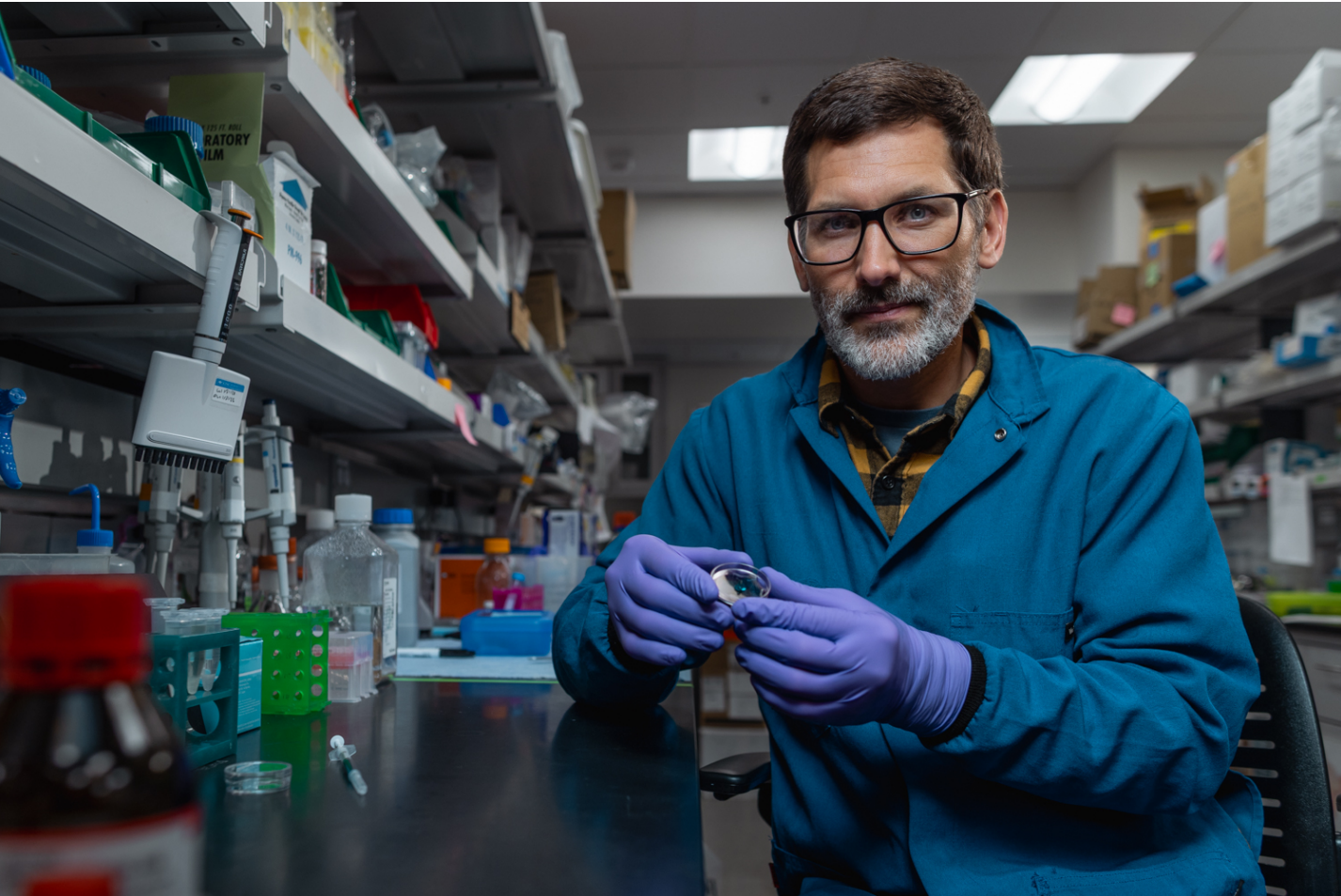
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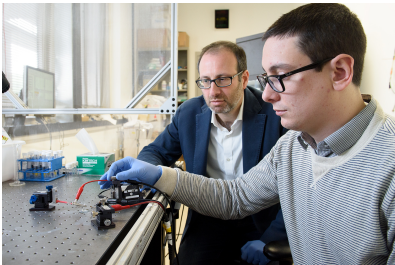
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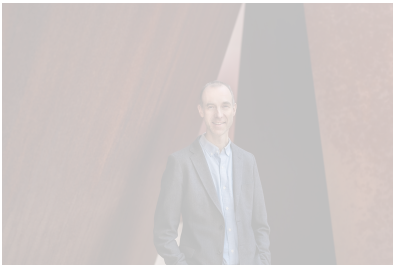
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Science & Engineering


One surprising fact about the human brain

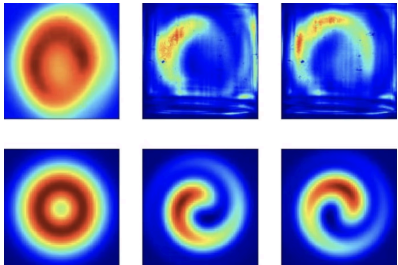
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StanfordReport

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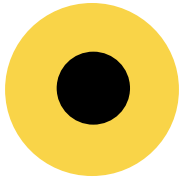
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CANARY MEDIA

Clean energy journalism for a cooler tomorrow

Gas stoves increase cancer risk, especially for kids, new study finds

The appliances emit benzene, a potent carcinogen. Exposure varies depending on ventilation and other factors, but there's no safe level.

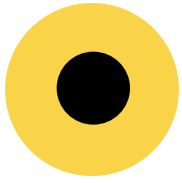


By **Alison F. Takemura**
16 May 2025



(Gerard Bottino/SOPA Images/LightRocket via Getty Images)

Gas stoves increase the chances of getting cancer, with nearly double the risk for kids than for adults.



CANARY MEDIA

Clean energy journalism for a cooler tomorrow

that something needs to be done,” said Juana María Delgado-Saborit, head of the environmental health research laboratory at the Jaume I University in Spain, who was not involved in the study. “We know that benzene exposure is associated with cancer. ... [The authors] have put a number on ‘How big is the problem?’”

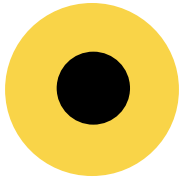
The work is just the latest in a growing body of peer-reviewed research demonstrating that gas-burning stoves and other appliances harm not only future generations with their planet-warming emissions but also have direct health consequences for people who use them now. These appliances spew a wide range of pollutants, including deadly carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides linked to respiratory diseases.

Around the U.S., cities and states are taking steps to limit new gas appliances. New York state is pursuing standards to ensure most new buildings will be all-electric. And in California, updates to infrastructure rules and a supportive statewide energy code are already tipping the economics toward all-electric construction.

But efforts to encourage clean cooking also face strong political headwinds. California Gov. Gavin Newsom, a Democrat, vetoed a bill last year to label gas stoves with a health warning. On the first day of his second term, President Donald Trump signed an executive order “to safeguard the American people’s freedom to choose” gas stoves. And at the U.S. Capitol this week, the Republican-controlled House proposed axing federal tax credits that currently make it easier for Americans to choose more energy-efficient, all-electric appliances.

In the new study, the team used benzene measurements from gas stoves in 87 homes, analyzing the health risks for the highest-emitting 5% of stoves by modeling how the carcinogen lingers in different rooms across several types of U.S. housing.


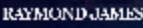

There’s no safe level of benzene exposure. But a common statistical limit for an acceptable level of exposure to the chemical is one person in a million getting cancer over a 70-year lifetime.



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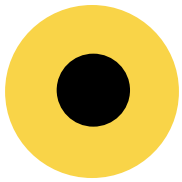
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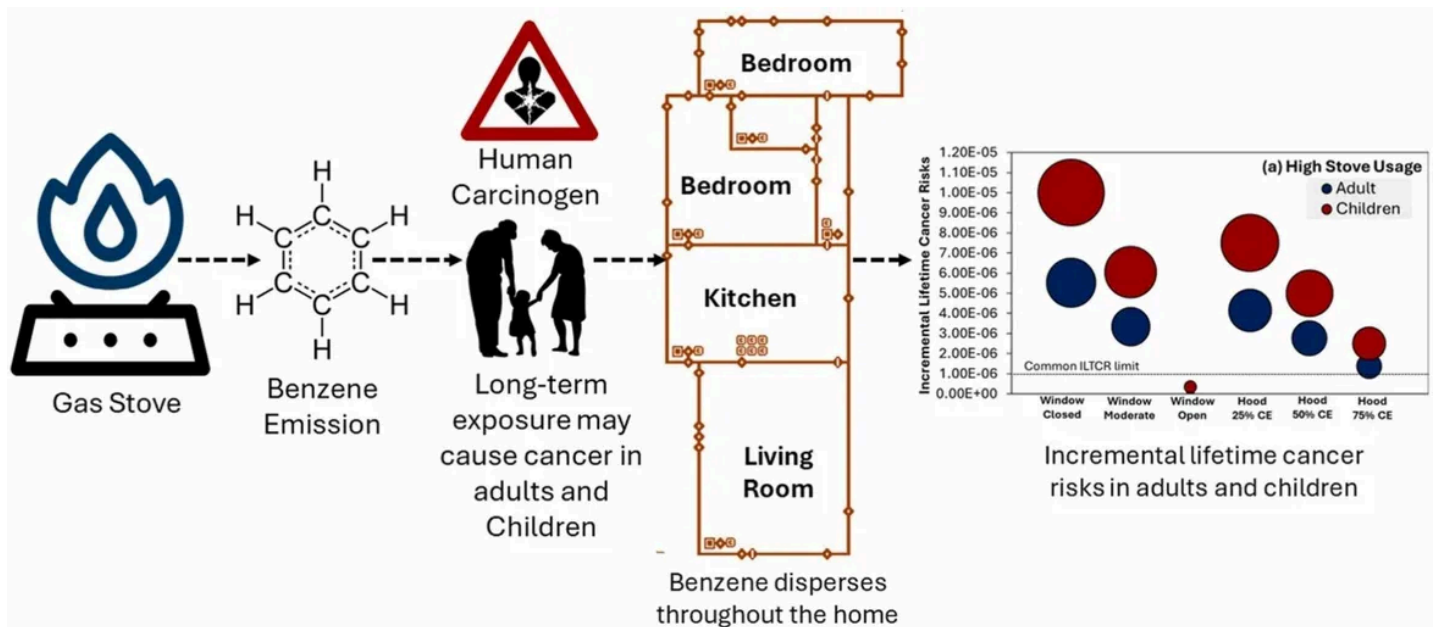




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Accounting for exposure across the whole home, gas stove benzene increased cancer risk for kids by up to 1.85 times the risk for adults.

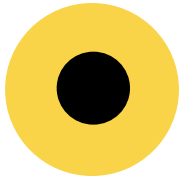


New research finds that gas stoves raise cancer risks in adults and kids by emitting benzene, a known carcinogen. (*Journal of Hazardous Materials*)

Ventilating with a high-efficiency range hood or by opening the windows could help decrease the risk, the team found, but couldn't eradicate it completely.

"The only way to eliminate the exposure is to replace a gas or propane stove with a non-emitting induction or other electric stove," Rob Jackson, senior author of the study and Earth systems professor at Stanford, told Canary Media.

About 38% of U.S. households cook with blue flames. Across those roughly 47 million homes, the team estimates that 6.3 million Americans are breathing in benzene from their gas stoves at the levels modelled.



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“Who wants to breathe more carcinogenic benzene than we have to?”

Fossil fuels

Carbon-free buildings

Electrification

Alison F. Takemura is staff writer at Canary Media. She reports on home electrification, building decarbonization strategies, and the clean energy workforce.

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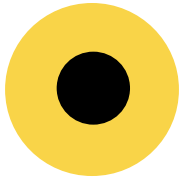
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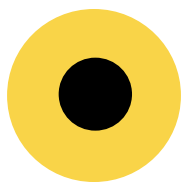
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CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-3772

Agenda Date: 9/17/2025

Agenda #: 6.

Advisory Board: Hazardous Materials Commission Planning & Policy Committee

Subject: Expiring terms for commission seats

Presenter: Committee Chair

Information:

Attached to this agenda item is the Hazardous Materials Commission roster with the current members, their positions, their committees, and term dates.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

DISCUSS the expiring terms for Business Seat #2 and Environmental Engineering Firms.

Position	Name	Start Date	End Date	Committee	Additional Positions
Business Seat 1 - West Co. Council of Industries	Fred Glueck	2/28/2023	12/31/2026	OPS	HazMat Commission Vice Chair
Business Seat 1 Alt. - West Co. Council of Ind.	Aaron Winer	2/28/2023	12/31/2026	OPS	
Business Seat 2 - Industrial Association	Mark Hughes	1/1/2022	12/31/2025	P&P	HazMat Commission Chair
Business Seat 2 Alternate - Industrial Association	Amy McTigue	1/1/2022	12/31/2025	P&P	
Business Seat 3 - Contra Costa Taxpayers Assoc.	Andrew D Graham	1/1/2025	12/31/2028	P&P	
Business Seat 3 Alt. - Co. Co. Taxpayers Assoc.	Frank Qin	1/1/2025	12/31/2028	P&P	
City Seat 1	Anthony L Tave	2/28/2023	12/31/2026	OPS	
City Seat 1 Alternate	Cesar Zepeda	3/19/2024	12/31/2026	OPS	
City Seat 2	Eduardo Martinez	3/19/2024	12/31/2027	P&P	Planning and Policy Committee Vice Chair
City Seat 2 Alternate	Brianne Zorn	3/19/2024	12/31/2027	P&P	
City Seat 3	Soheila V Bana	1/1/2025	12/31/2028	P&P	
City Seat 3 Alternate	Marisol Rubio	5/13/2025	12/31/2028	P&P	
Environmental Engineering Firms	*Vacant*			P&P	
Environmental Engineering Firms Alternate	Ronald Chinn	1/1/2022	12/31/2025	P&P	
Environmental Justice Representative	Maureen M Brennan	7/26/2022	12/31/2025	OPS	
Environmental Justice Representative Alternate	Kevin G Ruano Hernandez	4/18/2023	12/31/2025	OPS	
Environmental Organizations Seat 1	Jamin Pursell	1/1/2025	12/31/2028	OPS	Operations Committee Vice Chair
Environmental Organizations Seat 1 Alternate	Louis Flores	1/1/2025	12/31/2028	OPS	
Environmental Organizations Seat 2	Lisa A Martell	2/27/2024	12/31/2027	P&P	
Environmental Organizations Seat 2 Alternate	Rohan Tyagi	2/2/2024	12/31/2027	P&P	
General Public	Tim Bancroft	1/1/2024	12/31/2027	OPS	
General Public Alternate	Kenneth L Luther	1/1/2024	12/31/2027	OPS	
Labor Seat 1 - Central Labor Council	Julian Vinatieri	3/21/2023	12/31/2026	OPS	
Labor Seat 1 Alternate - Central Labor Council	Terry A Baldwin	2/28/2023	12/31/2026	OPS	
Labor Seat 2 - United Steel Workers Local 5	Jim Payne	1/1/2024	12/31/2027	P&P	Planning and Policy Committee Chair
Labor Seat 2 Alternate - United Steel Workers Local 5	Nick Plurkowski	2/27/2024	12/31/2027	P&P	
League of Women Voters	Marielle Boortz	1/1/2025	12/31/2028	OPS	Operations Committee Chair
League of Women Voters Alternate	Madeline Kronenberg	1/1/2025	12/31/2028	OPS	