For Agenda of: 4/25/2024

Item Number: 4b

FROM: Chris Read, Sustainability Manager

Prepared By: Michael Loew, Deputy Director/Chief Building Official

SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO ENERGY CODE FOR ALTERATIONS AND

ADDITIONS

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational presentation and discussion topic only. There is no action within the CBOA's purview to take regarding this matter.

DISCUSSION

The City's Office of Sustainability is seeking community input regarding new energy code amendments that is scheduled to be proposed to the City Council on May 21, 2024. Chris Read from the Office of Sustainability will provide the Construction Board of Appeals (CBOA) with a presentation and the scope of the policy and facilitate a discussion with the board.

BACKGROUND

As the City's electricity provided by Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) is on track to be 100% renewable by 2030, efforts to reduce climate emissions from buildings in SLO can focus primarily on reducing natural gas consumption. Between 80 and 90 percent of gas used in residential buildings is consumed by a building's water heater and furnace. Due to current regulatory limitations, the City is excluding stoves and laundry dryers from existing building policy discussion. For these reasons, the existing building policy discussion, including the Energy Efficient Renovations Policy, will focus on water heating, space conditioning, and whole home energy efficiency.