

Peter Campbell

From: jeanine jeaninejust.com <jeanine@jeaninejust.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2024 7:58 AM
To: Peter Campbell
Cc: jeanine jeaninejust.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MOUNTAIN RESIDENT JEANINE JUSTCommenting on the AQMD Rule 1111 and 1121

TO: Peter Campbell,

I want to comment about the proposal the AQMD is working on to amend rule 1111 and 1121.

- My name is Jeanine Just. I lived in Laguna Beach for over 20 years, before making Crestline my home for the past 15 years. Unlike Laguna Beach, it's common for electricity to frequently go out and sometimes for days. I'm a single woman in my 70s, and I'm happy to report that I have safely survived lots of tough mountain weather conditions. Why? Because I used my commonsense and selected from several options—gas, electric, fireplaces, candles and backup food supplies. I know for certain that electricity requirements in the mountains—are very different than in the Southern CA basin. I feel it's very important for AQMD to do a study specific on the mountains, to determine the detrimental effects of this proposal—and to consider making exceptions to the proposed rules that would apply to 4000 feet and above. California's power grid is already strained. The mountain needs a solution that would work for both the environment and the economy—not a one-size-fits all solution.

- Just as air quality is important to AQMD air quality is very important to mountain residents. In fact, many mountain residents moved here to get away from the poor air quality in the S. CA basin. We don't appreciate it when the wind blows the smog up to our mountains and creates unhealthy air quality.

- I'm also concerned about the proposal for "all electric mountain homes." Yesterday, the electric company sent a text that says, "Alert: High winds and fire conditions are forecast for Friday morning through Saturday afternoon. We may have to shut off your power to decrease risk during this time. Power restoration typically takes 8 hours and will start after the wind subsides. Delays may occur if daylight is required for safe inspections." My question is ... how will mountain residents stay alive during cold winter weather—when their only option is electricity?

- I've been a business consultant and entrepreneurs' advocate for over 40 years. I know for certain that small businesses in America, and especially in the mountains, are struggling to stay in business. There are lots of reasons, but California small business laws over the past 10 years, have reduced small businesses profitability. On top of that the Covid business closures forced lots of business to close their doors. IF ... mountain business property owners or business renters have to pay all the fees and money required to upgrade their utilities to all electric (and then pay extra electric bills) —it will be the "straw that breaks the camels back" for lots of our mountain businesses. Lots of buildings are older and would require huge amounts of money to bring them up to AQMD standards. We need our small businesses!!!

- Our mountain has some upper socio-economic residents—but lots of residents are mid to lower socio-economic status, who moved here because the cost of living was affordable. We also have lots of retirees and seniors that are on fixed incomes. Many people are suffering from the home/property damage caused by Snowmageddon in 2023—and struggling financially because they had to take out SBA loans to rebuild their damaged property. Now insurance cancellation and/or huge increases in

home insurance costs have many people living in fear of losing their homes or are losing their homes. The AQMD proposal would further devastate the mountain economy and the lives of many mountain residents.

I am asking AQMD to seriously reconsider the unique mountain challenges and our unique weather environment. I believe the AQMD proposal would have major unintended negative consequences. Thanks for your consideration,

Sincerely,
Jeanine Just

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