

My partner and I bought a 100-year-old house in northeast Baltimore city back in 2017, so I can tell you from experience how important it is for homes to be all electric from the beginning. Our house uses gas for heating, drying clothes and cooking, and we are on a slow, expensive path toward converting to electric-only. Simply upgrading our panel to allow for 220v outlets will be \$5000, and that's just the beginning (not to mention the sewage pipe we need to reroute to allow for the upgrade).

Any new constructions of houses that use gas will have fossil gas (a better term than "natural" gas) usage baked into them for years. This will derail our goal of bringing down emissions in Maryland, as fossil gas extraction and transport leaks the potent greenhouse gas methane into the atmosphere.

The conversion of all homes, new and old, to electric-only is how we move the powering and heating of homes to green energy. However, converting older houses is a bigger challenge than making them electric from the beginning. The most obvious next step is to make sure all new homes are already only using electricity to ensure that homeowners don't need to go through costly conversions in the future, and to make sure that our state stays on track for our emissions goals.

Thanks you,
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