

# AB 2313 (Berman) Home Energy Choice Act: FAQs

## Why is this bill needed?

**Utility customers deserve a choice.** Gas bills have increased 72% over the past decade, leaving customers responsible for more than \$14 billion per year in gas system costs.<sup>1</sup> A key driver is infrastructure spending: utilities earn profits by investing in assets like pipelines, and once a pipe is replaced, all gas customers are locked into paying for it—plus utility profit—for 50+ years.

## How does AB 2313 improve affordability for all customers?

When a gas service line (the pipe connecting a building to the main) is due for replacement, utilities would offer a **voluntary** incentive to electrify instead. Key affordability protections include:

- **Guaranteed savings for remaining gas customers:** Incentives are based on the avoided cost of the service line replacement, and the CPUC must set incentives to ensure remaining gas customers **benefit** when replacements are avoided – there is zero cost shift.
- **Lower stranded-asset risk:** Avoids locking customers into five decades of payments for infrastructure that will likely become obsolete well before California’s 2045 climate goals.
- **Support for low-income families and renters:** Requires coordination with existing programs and provides enhanced incentives for customers in disadvantaged communities .

## What about gas system safety?

- **Safety remains non-negotiable under AB 2313:** The CPUC must ensure safety replacements proceed on time with explicit exemptions for emergencies.
- **Replacements are the default:** Customers who don’t opt-in receive the pipe replacement.
- **Gas safety budgets remain under CPUC purview:** This bill has no impact on CPUC decisions about the pipeline Repair and Replace Fund. The CPUC approves funds for investments in General Rate Cases. AB 2313 saves ratepayers money only when the lower cost option for an identified replacement is chosen by a customer, and that pipe is capped.

## Will AB 2313 significantly impact gas system jobs?

No. **This is a targeted, modest program.** PG&E replaces less than half a percent (<0.5%) of all service lines annually, and only a portion of these homes would participate. Broader workforce planning must come through a comprehensive state-led transition—this bill simply avoids unnecessary replacements where customers prefer an alternative.

## Should we wait for results from SB 1221 pilots?

No. The CPUC describes AB 2313 as “**complementary**” to existing programs, including the SB 1221 pilots. SB 1221 focuses on piloting the electrification of entire communities. In contrast, AB 2313 is straightforward—no pilot is needed to allow an individual homeowner to choose to cap their own gas service line.

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<sup>1</sup> CPUC, 2025 Senate Bill 695 Report at 63 (Sept. 2025), [https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/office-of-governmental-affairs-division/reports/2025/2025-sb-695-report\\_093025.pdf](https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/office-of-governmental-affairs-division/reports/2025/2025-sb-695-report_093025.pdf).