



Analyzing Beneficial Electrification Opportunities for Richmond’s Existing Buildings

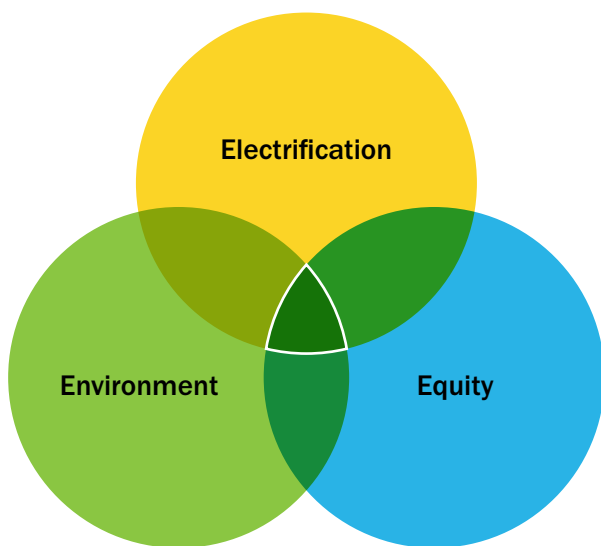
The City of Richmond, California is participating in the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Communities Local Energy Action Program (LEAP) Pilot, which is supporting 24 communities in their efforts to deploy clean energy projects to improve environmental quality and strengthen their economies.

Through Communities LEAP, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is providing technical assistance to the Richmond community to research building electrification strategies that **support Richmond’s efforts to equitably transition all existing buildings in the city from reliance on natural gas to clean electricity.**

What is Beneficial Electrification?

Electrification refers to the adoption of technologies that are powered by electricity in place of natural gas or other fossil fuels. For buildings, examples include: space heating, hot water heating, appliances, and equipment.

Beneficial electrification refers to electrification approaches that also benefit community members and the environment.



Project Quick Facts

Timeline: July 2022–December 2023

Existing Richmond Plan Alignment:

- Green-Blue New Deal (2022-2023)
- Ban on Natural Gas in New Buildings (2021)
- Climate Action Plan (2016)
- Health in All Policies Ordinance (2014)
- Richmond General Plan (2012)

Through cutting-edge research and direct public engagement, NREL will analyze how building electrification could provide equitable benefits to the Richmond community related to:



Environmental health – Changes in greenhouse gas emissions from the generation of energy used in buildings



Individual health – Impacts on indoor quality for residents and workers due to electrification and energy efficiency improvements



Energy burden – Impacts of electrification on utility costs



Employment – Opportunities for electrification to create family-supporting jobs and training programs.

Based on this analysis, NREL will work with the City and community of Richmond to identify potential building **electrification strategies at the intersection of electrification, environment, and equity.**

Learn more at www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4373/US-Department-of-Energy-DOE-Communities