



## LEAP's Electrification Policy

**Goal:** LEAP will become a key partner to municipalities, utilities, property management organizations, and other stakeholders in the energy sector wanting to implement beneficial electrification strategies.

**“Beneficial” Electrification definition:** Changing the fuel source for major appliances to electricity in a manner that: 1. Improves the health of households through reduced indoor air pollution; 2. Increases access to air conditioning if none exists and is desired; 3. Reduces the household's existing energy burden, and; 4. Protects households against anticipated fossil fuel energy costs because of carbon pricing.

**Why:** Electrification can improve the health of household occupants (electric/induction cooking tops), provide cooling where no cooling previously existed (heat pumps), improve the economics of heating homes (heat pumps), and protect against increasing energy costs.

### Actions LEAP will take:

1. Prioritize beneficial electrification in each house that LEAP serves: LEAP will approach every house we audit as an opportunity to electrify the services (space and water heating, cooking, etc...) that currently utilize fossil fuel(s) - with fuel oil, propane, and natural gas being prioritized in that order.
2. Educate: LEAP will educate homeowners on the benefits of electrification with respect to occupant health and economics in the medium-long term. Where relevant, electrification will be a component of any recommendations made during the assessment so that homeowners can incorporate it into their efficiency and upgrade strategy.
3. Ensure decrease in energy burden: LEAP will create individualized plans for each household and utilize multiple sources of funding and energy-efficiency measures to ensure any electrification action that is taken ensures no increase in energy burden to low-income households.
4. Prioritize health and safety: When funding is limited, priority for beneficial electrification will be given to those households with health and safety risks associated with their current fossil-fuel appliances. In some situations, fossil fuel usage will still be required in order to appropriately provide for the health and safety of a household, so each situation will be assessed and addressed individually. For example, households at a high risk of extended power outages may need a backup propane heat source.
5. Utilize a partner network: LEAP can not do all of this work alone and will utilize their partner network of trade allies familiar with electrification in order to ensure quality control and economies of scale.

6. Consider equity: LEAP's electrification work will prioritize low-income households who have the largest energy burden and least financial resources available to make the necessary investments to reduce their dependence on fossil fuels.