

보도시점

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National Heat Energy Revolution to Be Driven by Electrified Multi-unit Housing Heating and Cooling

- Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment holds heat energy innovation forum led by Minister

【Related National Policy Agenda】 38. Building the Energy Superhighway to Power Economic Growth

The Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment (MCEE, Minister Kim Sungwhan) announced that it will hold a Heat Energy Innovation Forum on July 7 at the Korea Electric Power Corporation Gyeongin Construction Headquarters in Jung-gu, Seoul, under the theme of “Expanding Heat Pump Adoption in Multi-unit Housing.”

In Korea, multi-unit housing such as apartments and row housing account for about 80% of all residential housing, making the electrification of heating and cooling systems in these buildings a key priority for decarbonizing the building sector. Recent advances in heat pump technology, which provides both heating and cooling through a single system while producing no direct carbon emissions and delivering high energy efficiency, have positioned heat pumps as a core technology expected to drive the electrification of heating and cooling in multi-unit housing.

* Housing composition (total: 19.873 million housing units): [Multi-unit housing] Apartments 65.3%, row and multi-family housing 14.3%, [Single-family housing] 19.3%, [Non-residential] 1.1% (Source: 2024 Population and Housing Census, Statistics Korea)

This forum was organized as a follow-up measure to the Heat Energy Innovation Strategy (Draft) announced in April, bringing together representatives from industry, academia, and research institutions to discuss ways to transition the heating and cooling systems of multi-unit housing from the current city gas-based model to an electrified system.

Participants will discuss institutional improvements needed to expand the adoption of heat pumps in multi-unit housing, support measures to accelerate deployment, and plans for demonstration projects. They will also exchange views on challenges encountered in the field and policy measures needed to address them.

Based on the feedback from stakeholders and recommendations from experts presented at the forum, the MCEE plans to develop detailed measures for expanding the adoption of heat pumps in multi-unit housing and, in cooperation with relevant ministries, gradually implement institutional reforms and policy support.

In addition, through the electrification of heating and cooling systems in multi-unit housing, the MCEE plans to continue strengthening the policy foundation for advancing the nation's heat energy innovation and achieving carbon neutrality, while delivering tangible benefits to the public through lower energy costs and more comfortable living environments.

Minister Kim Sungwhan stated, "Transforming the way heat energy is used in multi-unit housing, where most Koreans live, is essential to achieving the nation's heat energy innovation. We will actively promote heat pump demonstration projects and expand deployment in multi-unit housing so that gas-free apartments can become the new standard for residential living."