

Sample Letter: Request for Hot Water Heater Strapping



October 17, 2015

Mary Landlady
123 Jay Street
Berkeley, CA 94702

Dear Ms. Landlady,

As you may be aware, the hot water heater at 1234 Happy Parkway is not currently secured in case of an earthquake.

According to FEMA, if water heaters are not properly braced, they can topple over during an earthquake, causing broken gas lines and gas leaks, fires resulting in major damage to homes, and broken water lines and flooding.

Strapping of water heaters in new installations is required by California law (Health & Safety Code Sections 19210-19217). It is also strongly recommended that code-compliant flexible connectors be provided between the water heater and any water, gas, and electrical lines.

We believe that the current unstrapped water heater poses a safety concern due to the significant risks in an earthquake, as outlined above. As a result of this safety concern, we would like to formally request that you strap the water heater at your earliest convenience. Not only will this provide security for us but for the property as well. If you are unable to get this work done, we would be willing to have it done with the understanding that you would reimburse us for the cost. If this is a better option for you, we should talk about the best way to move forward.

We would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible about this. You can reach us at (510) 456-1111.

Thank you. Sincerely,

Terry Tenant
Henry Housemate