



Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council

"Your Community Voice"

Mayor Eric Garcetti
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mel Levine
President Board of Water and Power Commissioners
Department of Water and Power of the City of Los Angeles
Room 1555-H
111 North Hope Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

January 2, 2017

Ray Regalado
President

Lee Williams
Vice President

Melanie Labrecque
Treasurer

Cynthia Gonyea
Secretary

RE: Support to LADWP Shift to 100% Renewable Energy by 2030

Dear Representatives,

At the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board and Stakeholder Meeting on November 14, 2016, our board approved a motion to support the City of Los Angeles' Department of Water and Power (LADWP) shift to renewable energy in the following words:

We write to request that the City of Los Angeles' Department of Water and Power (LADWP) develop a plan and concrete timeline to transition its portfolio to 100% renewable energy no later than 2030. We support a rapid timetable and ask that Los Angeles **complete the transition to 100% clean, renewable energy by 2030 or sooner based on new technologies that become available. In addition, we ask that Los Angeles commit to making no new fossil fuel infrastructure investments during this transition period. We also request that LADWP include strategies to ensure that the economic and environmental benefits and opportunities linked to this energy transition are shared by all residents of Los Angeles.**

We are running out of time. Staying below 1.5 degrees C. of global warming, and well below a catastrophic 2 degrees C. of warming, will require aggressive action to undo our dependence on fossil fuels and achieve 100% clean energy.

To this end, we further oppose any new fossil fuel investments planned by the city, including construction of any new natural gas facilities. LADWP's 2015 integrated Resource Plan (RP) calls for the city to increase its use of natural gas to power our grid, with the city spending a total of \$2.2 billion to repower our coastal gas-generating station to comply with cooling regulations, plus a further \$500 million to replace the coal-fired intermountain Power Plant with gas generation. These expenditures will soon become stranded investments as we move toward renewable energy -- i.e., they will be sunk costs with no way to get a return on the

investment. Let's use these funds to transition to clean energy rather than waste them on infrastructure that will soon become obsolete.

Fossil fuels degrade our air quality and require significant amounts of much-needed fresh water. Additionally, the continued use of natural gas comes at great risk to Los Angeles residents and the environment. The Porter Ranch gas leak lasted 112 days and displaced over 15,000 residents from their homes, disrupting lives and businesses for months. Residents, their children and their pets suffered from health problems such as rashes, bloody noses, headaches and nausea, and residents continue to report health problems from ongoing leaks.

In addition to health and safety concerns, the methane that makes up natural gas is an extremely potent greenhouse gas. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change now states that, pound for pound, methane from the oil and gas industry traps 34 times more heat than a pulse of carbon dioxide over a 100-year time frame, and traps 86 times more heat over a 20-year time frame. Research shows that methane escapes into the air at an alarming rate at all stages of production, distribution, storage and end-use.

Transitioning to a 100% renewable grid will not only protect our climate and our communities, it will also increase the City's potential to create more local jobs, and will invite entrepreneurial creativity, research and development to the City. Investments in clean, renewable energy create more jobs that the same investments in coal, oil and gas.

We know that oil and gas infrastructure -- transportation, storage and refining -- is inherently dangerous. Recent disasters like Porter Ranch and the ExxonMobil refinery explosion, as well as ongoing health problems associated with neighborhood drilling like at the Murphy Well Site on West Adams (among many others, particularly in South Los Angeles) have shown us that we cannot continue on fossil fuels. We urge you to support the process of transitioning Los Angeles to 100% renewables by 2030, so that we can join San Diego, San Francisco and San Jose in becoming national leaders on clean energy.

Sincerely,



Ray Regalado, NWSPNC President
On behalf of NW San Pedro Neighborhood