



California Interfaith Power & Light

August 28, 2014

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

LA City Council President Herb Wesson
200 N. Spring Street, Room 430
Los Angeles, California 90012

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2014 SEP -9 PM 4:05
BY _____
CITY CLERK
DEPUTY

RE: Council File #14-0907: Support for Councilmember Koretz' 80 by 50 Motion

Dear Mayor Garcetti and City Council President Wesson,

On behalf of California Interfaith Power & Light (CIPL), representing over twenty four member congregations in Los Angeles, please accept this letter in strong support of Councilmember Paul Koretz's motion to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to 80% below 1990 levels by the year 2030, and an 80% citywide reduction by 2050.

California Interfaith Power & Light engages with congregations of all faiths on energy efficiency, renewable energy, education and advocacy. We are one state affiliate of the 15,000 congregation-strong Interfaith Power & Light national campaign, active in 40 states, and administered out of San Francisco.

Troubling national and regional climate reports show that climate change is already making an impact on lives and livelihoods. I am sure you are familiar with the June, 2012 UCLA report, "Mid-Century Warming in the Los Angeles Region," which states that if carbon emissions continue unabated, the Los Angeles region will experience an average temperature rise of 4.6 degrees Fahrenheit. We are already undergoing a record state-wide drought, high temperatures and an increase in wildfires.

However, the good news is that California is a leader in carbon pollution reduction strategies. There is strong action from many sectors of our state, including the faith community, and an increase in energy efficiency and renewable energy use is leading to job creation. Notably, a recent study by UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation and EDF shows that achieving just 10 percent of Los Angeles' rooftop solar potential could create 47,000 jobs and slash nearly 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually - the equivalent of taking about half a million cars off the road.

Councilmember Koretz has made a motion that is not only achievable, but will make Los Angeles a leader in a healthier future – an action that will inspire other major cities to do the same. As such, we firmly support this motion and respectfully urge the City of Los Angeles to pass it. Our Los Angeles faith congregations see caring for Creation as a moral imperative, and will continue to support such efforts from the City.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (310) 752-3436 or allis@interfaithpower.org.

Sincerely,

Allis Druffel
Southern California Outreach Director

CC: Councilmember Felipe Fuentes, Chair, E&E
Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Chair, TCT