

11/20/2015

Honorable Paul Koretz
200 North Spring Street, Suite 440
Los Angeles, CA 90012



Re: CF# 14-0907-- Support for 80% GHG cuts in Los Angeles by 2050

Dear Councilmember Koretz,

We are writing on behalf of thousands of our members and supporters to express our strong endorsement for the visionary initiative to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Los Angeles 80% below 1990 levels by year 2050. Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) works with low income communities of color in Los Angeles who are most heavily impacted by fossil-fuel pollution, including oil refineries and drilling, diesel and gasoline-powered vehicles, gas-fired power plants, and many other sources.

The science shows that 80% GHG cuts from 1990 levels by 2050 are the minimum needed to avoid catastrophic climate change, protect public health from adverse impacts of co-pollutants and meet the policy goals set by the State of California. This proposal will not only help us meet necessary statewide targets, it is also necessary to make a serious breakthrough to finally solve the public health crisis created by smog in Los Angeles. Furthermore, rigorous studies show that 80% cuts can be achieved while creating a healthy economic growth for all and lifting up disadvantaged communities with job creation, equity programs and revitalization projects.

We also strongly support setting 80% reduction of GHG emissions by 2030 for LADWP, which is already projected to meet almost 60% cuts by 2026 due to phase-out of coal. LADWP needs to meet the 80% cuts earlier because it started out with much higher emissions compared to rest of the state.

We applaud your leadership for championing this motion and urge other members of the City Council to vote for this proposal in advance of climate negotiations in Paris to demonstrate the leadership of City of Los Angeles in addressing this vital issue.

Sincerely,

Darryl Molina Sarmiento
Southern California Program Director

Bahram Fazeli
Director of Research and Policy

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Cc: Andy Shrader