



November 23rd, 2015

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

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

Dear Councilmember Koretz,

We write to express our enthusiastic support for your initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions economy wide here in Los Angeles 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. The Sierra Club has over 16,000 members and supporters here in Los Angeles committed to swift and urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Tracking scientific consensus on the emissions reduction trajectory needed to avoid significant disruption of the climate, state climate policy requires California to reduce greenhouse gas pollution to 1990 levels by 2020 and to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. This initiative is both necessary for aligning city and state policy, as well as aligning individual agency initiatives to combat climate change. It is this agency level leadership that is so exciting and important.

In particular, we applaud the effort to reduce emissions within the electric sector 80 percent by 2030. Already, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is on track to reduce emissions 55 percent just by eliminating coal from its electricity mix. When combined with existing clean energy initiatives such as the state's new 50 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), LADWP is on pace to reduce emissions 71% below 1990 levels according to the 2014 LADWP Integrated Resource Plan.¹ Further expansion of rooftop solar and energy efficiency, combined with rapidly declining cost of energy storage make the ambitious LADWP greenhouse gas goal achievable.

We thank the Councilmember for his leadership on this important resolution and urge its passage during the Paris climate conference as demonstration of the City's leadership and commitment to solving the climate crisis.

Sincerely,

Evan Gillespie
Director, My Generation Campaign
Sierra Club

George Watland
Sr. Chapter Director
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter

¹ Data found on p. ES-24 of the 2014 LADWP Integrated Resource Plan