RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATION

RESOLUTION

At its February 8, 2018, meeting the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is expected to consider Resolution G-3536, which would establish a moratorium on all gas service connections for new commercial and industrial developments in both incorporated and unincorporated LA County, until further Commission action, or March 31, 2018, whichever is earlier.

Such an immediate moratorium would harm businesses in the City of Los Angeles, including a wide range of development underway and businesses that would be otherwise ready to start operations. These projects and businesses should not have to absorb an unplanned delay in the start of their operations, and some of them may be unable to.

The Central City Association reports that the moratorium could affect 700 projects in Los Angeles that are currently under construction or in the planning phase. However, the CPUC does not appear to have provided any information regarding how much gas the moratorium would be expected to save, or the impact of potential new customers on overall in-basin gas usage. Moreover, it does not appear that CPUC has considered alternatives to comparably reduce the demand for natural gas.

The CPUC issued the proposed moratorium in response to energy reliability concerns related to the debate over gas-storage operations of Aliso Canyon an "to enhance natural gas reliability to core and noncore customers during the winter heating season and thereby preserve public health and safety."

Important and complex issues are raised by this dispute between the CPUC and the Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) and relating to supply and storage of natural gas, continued operation of Aliso Canyon, and curtailment strategies in the event of a shortage.

Instead of adopting an unplanned moratorium, the CPUC should explore and propose alternative actions to reduce gas usage and to reduce gas loss through system operations and pipeline repairs.

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed or pending before a local, state, or federal government body must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2017-18 Federal Legislative Program OPPOSITION to California Public Utilities Commission Resolution G-3536, and any other similar legislative or administrative provisions that would impose an unplanned moratorium on new gas service connections to customers in the City of Los Angeles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Los Angeles SUPPORT collaboration with California Public Utilities Commission and other stakeholders to identify alternative strategies for demand reduction in natural gas use.

PRESENTED BY: Ol Fre Buimaverios MA	
BOB BLUMENFIELD JOSE HUIZAR	
Councilmember, 3rd District / Councilmember, 14th District	
SECONDED BY:	
Councilmember, 3rd District Councilmember, 14th District	