RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, in May 2018, a study from the California Council on Science and Technology (CCST) titled "Long-Term Viability of Underground Natural Gas Storage in California" found that the Playa del Rey Natural Gas Storage Facility "stands out as a facility with relatively higher risk to health and safety than the other facilities in California;" and

WHEREAS, the CCST report noted that a large population nearby, the proximity to the region's largest airport, and a high risk of tsunami and wildfire all make the Playa del Rey gas storage facility particularly dangerous to the health and safety of people in Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Facility experienced a massive gas leak that expelled an estimated 96,100 tonnes of methane and 7,300 tonnes of methane into the atmosphere - the worst natural gas leak in the United States and one of the worst environmental catastrophes in California's history; and

WHEREAS, during the Aliso Canyon incident, residents of more than 8,000 homes had to be evacuated; and

WHEREAS, for years residents of Playa del Rey have expressed concerns about the operations of the gas facility and its impacts, and have called for its closure; and

WHEREAS, the CCST report noted that the Playa del Rey facility is a relatively small gas storage capacity, providing around one percent of the total natural gas storage across California, and yet "has a long history of loss-of-containment incidents and is located near a large population center in a very high wildfire hazard zone;" and

WHEREAS, the CCST recommended that "the State should commission a cost-benefit analysis including full consideration of risks associated with loss-of-containment from" the Playa del Rey gas storage facility; and

WHEREAS, California Governor Gavin Newsom has the authority to instruct the Department of Conservation and California Council on Science and Technology to assess the future viability and necessity of the Playa del Rey gas storage facility;

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 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for a state study of the feasibility of closing the Playa del Rey natural gas storage facility located at 8141 Gulana Ave in Playa Del Rey, CA 90293.

PRESENTED BY:

MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

ORIGINAL

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