

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) standard maintenance and upgrade procedures which require draining water.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the Motion (Huizar - Fuentes) relative to LADWP standard maintenance and upgrade procedures which require draining water and methods to reduce water waste during said procedures.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

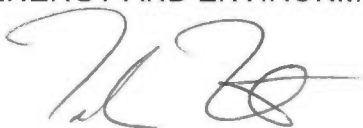
On May 6, 2015, your Committee considered a Motion (Huizar - Fuetnes) relative to LADWP standard maintenance and upgrade procedures which require draining water and methods to reduce water waste during said procedures. According to the Motion, on Monday, March 16, 2015, thousands of gallons of water gushed down Eagle Vista and Hill drives in Eagle Rock, entering the storm drain system and ultimately pouring into the ocean. The LADWP confirmed that the water was being intentionally drained from a water main that needed to be fixed as part of planned improvements to the Eagle Rock Reservoir.

The LADWP reported that approximately 70,000 gallons of water were drained from the corroded pipe, a portion of which was ultimately captured by LADWP for reuse in response to complaints by the public and the Council office. Residents concerned about water waste attempted to recapture it in buckets to irrigate their lawns and wash their cars. Over the past few years, in response to persistent drought conditions, which threaten the stability of the City's water supply, the City has administered emergency water conservation measures and widely promoted a conservation ethic. The LADWP's practice of releasing water into the storm drain system is an apparent contradiction to the City's prioritization of water conservation.

Representatives from the LADWP provided an overview of its policies in regard to their procedures for draining water and answered questions from the Committee members. After consideration and provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee noted and filed the Motion, inasmuch as it was submitted for information only. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



MEMBER VOTE

FUENTES: YES
BLUMENFIELD: ABSENT
LABONGE: YES
HUIZAR: YES
KORETZ: YES

ARL
5/6/15

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-