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MOTION

On June 15, 2016 the Independent Hearing Board for the Southern California Air Quality Management District granted a variance to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) which allows DWP to burn diesel fuel at 3 key generating stations, if necessary, to prevent any potential blackouts in the event that SoCalGas restricts the supply of natural gas as a result of the recent gas leak at Aliso Canyon.

While it is important for Angelenos to have a reliable source of power, the greater good that comes with this limited variance – if utilized – would come at the expense of residents in Environmental Justice communities such as Sun Valley and Wilmington, who are already struggling with the burdens of disproportionate pollution levels, incompatible land uses, and other challenges to community health and quality of life.

In granting this variance, SCAQMD established several conditions and mitigations for LADWP to address community concerns, including development of a mitigation plan, payment of environmental fees, and operating conditions.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Water and Power report to Council District Six and Council District Fifteen with information on how it will work with the affected communities adjacent to the generating stations to develop the appropriate mitigation plans, what outreach efforts will be made for the required public hearings, and what other efforts it will take to recognize and ameliorate any negative impacts that would come with the use of this variance.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst and LADWP communicate with the Southern California Air Quality Management District and request SCAQMD to work closely with LADWP, Council District Six, and Council District Fifteen to receive input and recommendations on the expenditures of any environmental fees that may be collected.

PRESENTED BY: 
NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

SECONDED BY: 
JOE BUSCAINO
Councilman, 15th District

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JUN 28 2016