

MOTION

On August 21, 2020 the Department of Water and Power (DWP) was contacted by staff at Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) to inform DWP that data from recent airborne remote-sensing surveys of the LA basin conducted as part of its Greenhouse Gas monitoring program detected methane near the Valley Generating Station. The methane was observed during JPL's most recent overflights on July 16, 2020, and August 7, 2020, between the hours of 1 pm and 2 pm. Methane, a colorless, odorless gas that is the main component of natural gas, is a powerful greenhouse gas that traps the sun's heat, warming the earth 86 times as much as the same mass of carbon dioxide over a 20-year period.

The Valley Generating Station is located in the Northeast San Fernando Valley, an area that has endured decades of environmental injustice. Neighborhoods in this region have suffered from discriminatory land use practices, a lack of open space, and an overconcentration of polluting industries. With the number of extreme heat days expected to rise, these neighborhoods will only get hotter and the air quality will become even worse. Residents who live near the Valley Generating Station have carried the burden of environmental injustice for too long. Communities are left with decisions to endure rolling blackouts or poor air quality. They deserve access to clean air and greener neighborhoods.

It's unconscionable that DWP did not have monitoring systems in place to protect the residents that live near the Valley Generating Station. DWP must expand its air quality monitoring system and implement emergency protocols to ensure that residents are not exposed to harmful emissions.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Water and Power, in consultation with the Bureau of Street Lighting, develop and fund a plan to install air quality monitors on street lighting poles, City infrastructure, and other viable locations, including residences and businesses, within a one-mile radius of the Valley Generating Station while it remains in service.

PRESENTED BY: _____
MONICA RODRIGUEZ (verbal)
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY: _____
NURY MARTINEZ (verbal)
Councilmember, 6th District