

MOTION

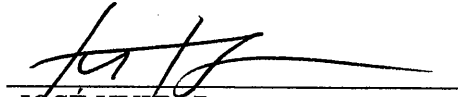
The Department of Water and Power's Board of Commissioners is reportedly considering a water and power rate hike. The additional funds generated from the proposed rate action will purportedly used to fund water and power infrastructure investments that have been forestalled for decades. Additionally, some portion of the funding will be used to recover the cost of natural gas which has risen sharply in the past year. Finally, DWP staff advises that a share of the requested funding will be used to offset the cost of renewable energy investments including wind, solar, geothermal and biomass projects in an effort to reach the City's goal of 20% renewable energy sales to customers by 2010.


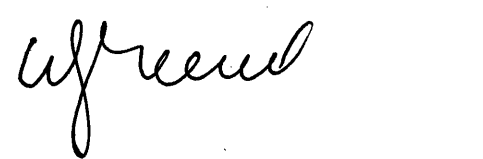
Based on recent staff estimates, City facilities are so antiquated and inefficient that the City's energy costs could be cut by 15%~25% with relatively simple modifications to our energy systems. Moreover, investments by our largest customers in energy saving equipment and/or modest changes in the way they consume energy including but not limited to modernizing their air conditioning and heating systems, installing motion detectors, and even adjusting the custodial work crew hours could translate to millions in savings per year.

DWP reportedly has as many as 100 bi-lateral contracts with its largest industrial and commercial customers including the LAUSD that were entered into shortly after the 2000/2001 energy crisis and are due to expire soon. Additionally, the City of Los Angeles reportedly owns over 900 buildings, most of which may be unnecessarily costing DWP ratepayers millions of dollars a year due to their inefficient use of water and electricity. Accordingly, before asking our ratepayers to open their wallets, the City and its largest customers should seek ways to tighten their belts by looking for creative ways to optimize energy consumption and efficiencies where possible.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council request that the Department of Water and Power report back within sixty (60) days to the Energy and Environment Committee on the status of its bi-lateral contract negotiations including a plan to encourage its largest commercial and industrial customers to reduce energy and water usage; and

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer (CAO), Chief Legislative analyst (CLA) work with Department of Water and Power and the Department of General Services to provide recommendations on ways to promote efficiency and reduce energy and water usage at City facilities including, but not limited to, ensuring that they are equipped with energy and water efficiency systems and/or meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.

Presented by: 
JOSE HUIZAR
Councilman, 14th District

Seconded By: 


JUL 18 2005

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