## NEWS - OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

## COUNCILMEMBER ALEX PADILLA 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PADILLA DIRECTS CITY TO IMPROVE OVERHEAD POWER LINE SAFETY

**LOS ANGELES** – City Council President Alex Padilla today introduced a motion to direct the City of Los Angeles to improve overhead power line safety and reduce power outages in the City of Los Angeles resulting from extreme weather conditions such as high winds.

"The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has worked around the clock to repair downed power poles during the recent wind storms," said Padilla. "However, there are certain areas of the City – specifically areas of the San Fernando Valley near passes and canyons – that are especially prone to power outages during extreme weather conditions. Maintaining the reliability of our power grid needs to be a high priority for the DWP and the entire City of Los Angeles."

In response to reported outages, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power deployed 250 employees to repair downed power poles, reducing the number of those without power from 50,000 to 3,000 in a 24-hour period. Rates of pole-related outages in the City of Los Angeles were substantially lower than in other areas of the region that are served by Southern California Edison.

Padilla's motion will be heard in Council next week.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Council District serves the communities of Lake View Terrace, Mission Hills, North Hills, Pacoima, Panorama City, and Sylmar

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