

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, wildfires have become an all too familiar occurrence not just in the City of Los Angeles, but across the State of California; and

WHEREAS, dozens of homes have been completely destroyed and countless more damaged by wildfires in the City of Los Angeles just in the past month alone; and

WHEREAS, thousands of electricity customers service has been interrupted through either planned power shutdowns or emergency shutdowns, putting medically vulnerable populations, seniors and critical facilities at risk throughout California; and

WHEREAS, in January 2019, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) instituted a new rulemaking on building decarbonization and is in the process of implementing Senate Bill 1477 (Stern, 2018) which directs the commission to create two new programs called the Building Initiative for Low Emissions Development (BUILD) and the Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating (TECH); and

WHEREAS, the BUILD program will offer up to \$20 million per year for four years to promote the construction of new residential housing that utilizes near-zero-emission building technologies; and

WHEREAS, the TECH program will offer up to \$30 million per year for four years to promote purchases of low-emission space and water heating equipment; and

WHEREAS, the CPUC should include residential fuel cells in the program so homeowners and vulnerable populations have the option to not rely on the power grid; and

WHEREAS, given the recent wildfires in Southern California, the City of Los Angeles should call on the CPUC to include communities in Los Angeles affected by recent wildfires in the BUILD and TECH programs; and

WHEREAS, the CPUC should direct funding for both the BUILD and TECH programs that are a part of the building decarbonization efforts to prioritize the deployment of residential fuel cells in fire damaged and fire prone areas; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles includes in its 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for the California Public Utilities Commission including the City of Los Angeles communities affected by 2019 wildfires in its available funding through the BUILD and TECH programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Public Utilities Commission be URGED to include the deployment of residential fuel cells in fire damaged and fire prone areas of Los Angeles utilizing the funding from the BUILD and TECH programs.

PRESENTED BY *John S. Lee*  
JOHN S. LEE  
Councilmember, 12<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY *Monica Rodriguez*

*PK*

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