

14-1690

MOTION ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) provides essential utility services to the City of Los Angeles, including a reliable grid. Reliability of the power grid is critical to life, health, public safety, and economic advancement of the City and surrounding region.

Electric utility properties and equipment are distributed over a large region and there may be vulnerabilities to this equipment including but not limited to: extraordinary solar flares creating damaging Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) effects, geomagnetic disturbances, nuclear and non-nuclear EMP weapons, physical attacks, cyber attacks, equipment failures, and power overloads.

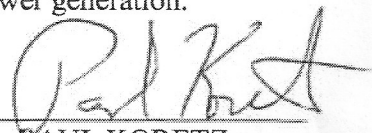
Additionally, the 2014 United Nations International Panel on Climate Change report warns that we are irreversibly on course to trigger the 3.6 degree Fahrenheit (2 degrees Celsius) global temperature tripwire that will "increase the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems," including more and worse extreme storm events, like those which have already been leaving affected areas without power sometimes for weeks.

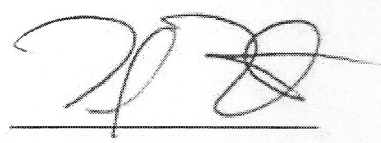
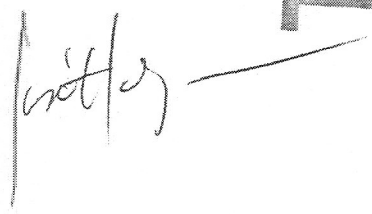
It is important that LADWP maintain the historical reliability of the power system and address the power grid vulnerabilities described.

I THEREFORE MOVE that, within the provisions or limitations of prudent security practices, the LADWP report to the Energy and Environment Committee within 60 days on:

- The degree to which the electric utility properties and equipment (the power grid) are subject to damage from these vulnerabilities, the time spans and costs necessary for repair of such damage, and the impact such damage would inflict on the ability of the citizens, businesses, and governmental agencies to function in support of life, health, public safety, and economic advancement of the City and surrounding region;
- The standards used to prepare or protect the power grid from such vulnerabilities;
- The methods available to prepare or protect the power grid from such vulnerabilities, their costs, and their feasibilities;
- Practical and safe guidance as to how an individual utility customer, or a neighborhood, may be able to prepare for such emergencies as the inability of the LADWP to maintain service in the event of failures caused by these vulnerabilities, and how the City of Los Angeles could contribute to individual or neighborhood preparations;
- A comparison of the relative grid security and safety to residents of LADWP's service area by providing local renewable distributed generation sources and microgrids versus central station out-of-basin power generation.

  
DEC 09 2014

PRESENTED BY:   
PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:  

ORIGINAL