



Boyle Heights

Neighborhood Council

Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council

2130 E. First Street, Suite 110
Los Angeles, CA 90033

May 23, 2021

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the
Members of the Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor, Garcetti and Members of the City Council:

With LA having completed the four-year long LA100 Renewable Energy Study, the City is now facing a choice for what its long-term plan for moving to clean energy will look like. With compounding crises on the city's doorstep, the City must go beyond investing in clean energy — it must invest in its people.

LADWP should not rely on renewable energy credits, which exacerbate the harm faced by LA's environmental justice communities. Nor should biofuels, which perpetuate unsustainable and polluting waste and agricultural practices, be allowed as part of our energy grid. Avoiding these false solutions, along with rapidly retiring what is left of LA's methane, coal, and nuclear facilities — will ensure an end to an energy system which benefits those at the top, at the expense of our health and safety.

Achieving a reliable, safe, and affordable energy system cannot happen on the backs of our most vulnerable residents. Los Angeles must ensure that LADWP's investment in clean energy is directed towards empowering frontline communities, workers, and everyday ratepayers to lead and to thrive.

Such a transition should include:

- An investment in leadership from frontline communities, grassroots organizations, and other community-based stakeholders in guiding LADWP's implementation, outreach and engagement efforts.
- A prioritization of community-based energy initiatives whenever possible – including energy efficiency, rooftop solar, battery storage, microgrids and home retrofits in order to promote affordability and eliminate dependence on expensive technologies like hydrogen.
- Comprehensive and accessible solutions to achieve equity for LADWP ratepayers, including utility debt relief, bill stabilization, expansion of low-income payment programs, clean energy incentives and tenant protections from displacement.
- Local hiring guarantees, pay parity, project labor agreements and other union protections for creating high road jobs in the clean energy economy – while also ensuring pensions and retraining for workers in the fossil fuel industry.

Los Angeles's neighborhoods are ready to lead in the transition to clean energy. It is the role of the City and LADWP to provide our communities with the resources, tools and support that can empower everyday residents to take control of their energy future. We urge you to support the above policies as part of a just transition to 100% clean energy by 2030.

Thank you,

Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council