



February 5, 2021

Mayor and Council
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101
Via Email

RE: How to build public trust in the City's Electric and Gas Franchise Agreements process

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

Thank you for the hearings and community forums that you have held on the pending electric and gas Franchise Agreements. Given the Mayor's timeline to release the bids for the Franchise Agreements in March, we urge you to commit to the following actions as critical next steps to broaden the community conversation and further the public's trust in this process.

Specifically:

1. The Mayor will release the specific and detailed guiding principles and core provisions for any proposed bid for adoption by resolution of the Environment Committee and/or full City Council, to match the bare minimum procedure of the previous bidding process;
2. The Environment Committee, or at least the Committee Chair, will be assigned to work directly with the Mayor's office in crafting proposed bid terms and provisions;
3. The Mayor's Office and City staff will consult and work with legal, regulatory and technical experts in crafting any agreement terms; and
4. The Environment Committee will organize presentations from public power operators, experienced franchise agreement negotiators, and building decarbonization experts to highlight the various interconnected opportunities these agreements can provide the City and community.

We believe that these steps are key to inclusive community engagement and education, centering equity and vulnerable communities, and securing the best electric and gas distribution systems during this Franchise process for San Diego families.

Given this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reshape our broken energy system, solve our longstanding challenges in winding down our gas infrastructure, and restoring public trust, we hope the Mayor, Council and Environment Committee will center the conversation on behalf of the community.

We look forward to continuing to partner on this critical issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kyle Heiskala
Board Chair
BikeSD

Suzanne Hume
Educational Director and Founder
CleanEarth4Kids.org

Benjamin Eichert
Director
Greenpower

Maria Muhammad
Co-CEO
I Am Green

Sonja Robinson
Steering Committee Chair
Public Power San Diego

Mike Knab
Board Chair
Business for Good

Matthew Vasilakis
Co-Director of Policy
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Paul Cleary
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Change Begins With Me

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Tara Hammond
Co-Founder & Chief Environmental Office
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Bill Powers
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Protect Our Communities Foundation

Dave Rosenfeld
Executive Director
Solar Rights Alliance