



COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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RESOLUTION NO. *001-98-COE*

[PG&E Power Plants]

January 13, 1998

URGING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THE MAYOR, AND THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE WHETHER TO PURCHASE PG&E'S POWER PLANTS.

WHEREAS, San Francisco's existing electric system is comprised of the Hunters Point Power Plant and the Potrero Power Plant (with generating capacities of about 430 and 350 megawatts, respectively), and a network of transmission lines and local distribution system, all of which are currently owned and operated by Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E);

WHEREAS, San Francisco's residential, commercial and industrial sectors spend approximately \$500 million annually for the electricity provided by PG&E and, in addition, the City's municipal sector consumes \$33 million annually in electricity, which is produced by hydroelectric generation facilities owned by San Francisco's Hetch Hetchy Water and Power and which is brought over PG&E's transmission and distribution lines to the City's municipal buildings;

WHEREAS, PG&E's Hunters Point Power Plant and Potrero Power Plant generate more than 2,000 tons of criteria pollutants annually, and are the largest stationary sources of air pollution in the City and County of San Francisco;

WHEREAS, it is reasonably expected that if PG&E sells the Hunters Point Power Plant and Potrero Power Plant to a new owner, such owner will have an economic incentive in the restructured

electric market to maximize the local power plants' operating capacities and this would increase the amount of air pollution burdening San Francisco's communities;

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Department of Public Health recently reported that the Bayview-Hunters Point community residents have the highest hospitalization rates for asthma (for all age groups) in the State of California;

WHEREAS, the Southeast district of the City is the only area in San Francisco where the local power plants are located and generating a significant amount of air pollution impacting surrounding neighborhoods and, for more than 50 years, the residents and businesses throughout San Francisco have benefited greatly from having reliable electric generation resources available locally in San Francisco;

WHEREAS, to protect the health, safety and welfare of local residents, as well as to promote sustainable energy programs and policies and the economic well-being of San Francisco's residents and businesses, it is believed that the City should investigate and consider how to best control and manage electric generation resources so as to integrate renewable and alternative technologies (such as wind, solar and fuel cells), reduce existing levels of air pollution from power plants, and address the disproportionate environmental burdens on the Southeast District neighborhoods from electricity generation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Commission on the Environment urges the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to direct Hetch Hetchy Water and Power to investigate whether to purchase the Hunters Point and Potrero Power Plants from PG&E.

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Commission on the Environment at its meeting of January 13, 1998.

Christopher Chow
Commission Secretary

VOTE:

Ayes: Commissioners Evans, Krefting, Okamoto, Richardson, Russell, and Vietor.

Noes: None.

Excused: Commissioner Eng

Commission on the Environment