



**ERIC
GARCETTI**
President, Los Angeles City Council
COUNCIL DISTRICT 13



200 N. Spring St. Room 470 • Los Angeles • CA 90012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 26, 2006

Contact: Josh Kamensky (213) 473-7013

CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTS RE-OPENING OF SOLAR INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Councilmembers encouraged by the new approach taken by DWP

The Los Angeles City Council advanced a program that helps ratepayers convert to solar energy. In 2000, to encourage a broader use of renewable energy sources, DWP began to subsidize residents and businesses that installed solar panels. The program was so popular that in 2005 the department had to temporarily suspend it in order to adjust to heightened demand. A report issued in response to a motion submitted by Council President Eric Garcetti and seconded by Councilmember Jan Perry indicates that DWP has restructured its incentive program to ensure that it can continue through its end date of June 30, 2011.

“The renewal of the solar incentive program could not have come at a better time,” said Garcetti, who has installed solar panels on the roof of his own home. “With high energy demands throughout California, people throughout the city want to invest in renewable energy sources. This incentive will help us control our own energy destiny, and will contribute towards the city’s renewable standard portfolio.” The portfolio mandates that 20% of the power supplied by DWP come from renewable sources by 2010.

“Today, as a City, we are demonstrating a commitment to renewable energy. The solar panel incentive program is an important way that we can encourage our residents to join us in this important effort,” said Councilmember Jan Perry, Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee, which oversees the DWP. “In light of recent energy demands, it is evident, now more than ever, that we need to invest in renewable energy sources like solar energy.”

The program has a \$150 million budget with a goal of helping install 100,000 solar rooftops by the end of the program. The most significant change in the program involves a new method of calculating the amount of the incentive. In previous years, the monetary rebate given to DWP customers had been based on the physical size of the system. Now it will be calculated based on the expected energy output of each panel. This will allow solar systems to be designed to maximize energy production, benefiting both the consumer and DWP’s power grid. Information about the application process is available at LADWP’s website, www.ladwp.com. The program will be available beginning August 14.

###