

Councilman
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6th Council District



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Cardenas and Padilla Champion Clean Air Movement for LA

Environmentalists Calling RPS Passage a Long-awaited Victory

Today the Los Angeles City Council passed a resolution co-authored by Councilmembers Tony Cardenas and Alex Padilla which directs the Department of Water and Power to pass a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS).

"Finally after years of talk, the City is taking real action in making sure future generations breathe cleaner air," said Cardenas. "This is an investment Angelinos appreciate and by the year 2017, they will be able to say their City is leading the way in environmental protection."

The Resolution calls for LADWP to increase its share of energy it generates from renewable sources, like solar, wind, and geothermal, by 20% and to implement this cleaner energy by 2017. To reach this goal, Cardenas and Padilla are asking the Department to adopt an RPS plan by the end of this year.

"For the first time, the City of Los Angeles has a roadmap that will allow us to reach a goal of 20% renewable energy in our portfolio by the year 2017," said Council President Alex Padilla. "Using more renewable energy will help ensure a clean environment, will create job opportunities and economic development in the high-tech sector, and will be easy on the pocketbooks of ratepayers. It's about time that we flip the switch on this bright idea."

"Today's council decision creates the spark that's been needed to clean up the DWP," said Martin Schlageter, energy policy director with the Coalition for Clean Air. "We first raised this issue over two years ago. Since Councilman Cardenas became Chair of the Commerce, Energy and Natural Resources Committee, this issue has finally received the attention it deserves."

Cardenas expressed the urgency of an RPS and is advising DWP not to derail the process by tying up the resolution in additional city commissions.

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