

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 83 (Wiener) - Public Utilities: Electrical Distribution
2 Grid: Interconnection]

3 **Resolution urging the California State Senate to pass Senate Bill No. 83, introduced by**
4 **Senator Scott Wiener, which will impose set timelines for investor-owned utilities, such**
5 **as Pacific Gas and Electric Company, to complete electrical interconnection work after**
6 **receiving the necessary permits for essential development projects, including**
7 **affordable housing; and requiring that they pay financial compensation to the project**
8 **applicant if they fail to meet that timeline.**

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10 WHEREAS, San Francisco is in the midst of a housing affordability and homelessness
11 crisis; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s state-certified Housing Element plan calls for the
13 production of over 82,000 homes, including over 46,000 affordable housing units, over the
14 next eight years; and

15 WHEREAS, All new housing must connect to the electrical grid, a process known as
16 interconnection, before it can be occupied; and

17 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s affordable housing projects rely on Pacific Gas and
18 Electric Company’s (PG&E) electrical distribution grid and infrastructure for interconnection,
19 before these units can be occupied by San Francisco’s low-income residents; and

20 WHEREAS, San Francisco has historically experienced significant delays to the
21 energization of essential projects such as affordable housing units attempting to interconnect
22 to PG&E’s electrical distribution grid; and

23 WHEREAS, PG&E has delayed City projects by imposing unnecessary requirements
24 and costs, as well as lacking set timelines for key portions of the interconnection process
25 which have contributed to significant delays and costs; and

1 WHEREAS, Since 2018, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) has
2 reported 136 projects delayed by PG&E; and

3 WHEREAS, The Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD)
4 reports that 11 affordable housing projects have been significantly impacted by PG&E
5 interconnection delays, creating cost overruns of \$41 million to the City and County of San
6 Francisco and San Francisco tax payers; and

7 WHEREAS, San Francisco is facing a projected \$780 million budget deficit over the
8 next two years; and

9 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 83 will help mitigate harmful and unnecessary interconnection
10 delays by investor-owned utility corporations, including PG&E, by imposing strict timelines to
11 complete interconnection work after receiving the necessary permits, and requiring that they
12 pay financial compensation to the project applicant if they fail to meet that timeline; and

13 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 83 will provide a much-needed enforcement mechanism by the
14 State to hold investor-owned utilities accountable for delaying interconnection to affordable
15 housing projects in San Francisco; and

16 WHEREAS, The State Legislation Committee of San Francisco voted to support
17 Senate Bill 83 during its meeting on April 12, 2023; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the California State
19 Legislature to pass Senate Bill 83, sponsored by Senator Scott Wiener; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs
21 the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of this Resolution to the Bill’s primary sponsor, Senator
22 Scott Wiener, additional members of San Francisco’s State Legislative Delegation, and
23 California Governor Gavin Newsom.