

1 [Urging Equitable Electricity Rates]

2 Resolution urging the California Public Utilities Commission  
3 (PUC) to devise a rate structure that treats homeowner  
4 associations and other residents in multi-unit dwellings  
5 equitably with other consumers of power.  
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7 WHEREAS, The California Public Utilities Commission is the  
8 body charged with overseeing and regulating California's  
9 electricity rates; and,

10 WHEREAS, This year's energy crisis in California has sent  
11 rates skyrocketing; and,

12 WHEREAS, In an effort to decrease the economic impacts of  
13 the crisis on businesses and customers, in May 2001 the PUC set  
14 up a new five-tier rate structure designed to punish consumers  
15 whose power usage exceeds a set baseline per meter and reward  
16 those whose usage is below that baseline per meter; and,

17 WHEREAS, Though this rate structure achieves the goals of  
18 reducing rates for some consumers, it appears to have the  
19 reverse effect on other groups; and,

20 WHEREAS, One such group includes residents of multi-family  
21 dwellings, who may face higher bills even if they reduce their  
22 usage, because their power is routed through only a few meters,  
23 which then show that they are greatly exceeding baseline power  
24 usage levels; and,  
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1           WHEREAS, In some instances, despite reductions in usage of  
2 10%, some homeowner associations with fewer meters still face  
3 double-digit rate increases; and,

4           WHEREAS, Because California has 30,000 homeowner  
5 associations with approximately 8.5 million members, the  
6 overcharging of this group represents a problem of huge economic  
7 proportions;

8           WHEREAS, Despite this mandate to resolve this issue, which  
9 was recently reviewed by the PUC as part of phase two of the  
10 Baseline Order to Investigate Rates (OIR) proceedings  
11 application case number R01-05-047, the PUC gave the issue a low  
12 priority; and,

13           WHEREAS, It behooves the PUC to give this matter immediate  
14 attention and to revise their rate system to account for the  
15 number of meters used by certain multiple-residence consumers;  
16 now, therefore be it

17           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
18 County of San Francisco hereby urges the California Public  
19 Utilities Commission (PUC) to devise a rate structure that  
20 treats homeowner associations and other residents in multi-unit  
21 dwellings equitably with other consumers of power; and be it

22           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the PUC to put the  
23 highest priority on resolving the issues raised in application  
24 case number R01-05-047 of phase two of the Baseline OIR  
25 proceedings; and be it

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FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the PUC, Governor Gray Davis and San Francisco's state legislative delegation.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails  
Resolution

File Number: 011688

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to devise a rate structure that treats homeowner associations and other residents in multi-unit dwellings equitably with other consumers of power.

October 1, 2001 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Ammiano, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, McGoldrick, Newsom, Peskin,  
Sandoval, Yee

Absent: 2 - Daly, Maxwell

File No. 011688

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on October 1, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

OCT 12 2001

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.