

1 [Initiative Ordinance - Environment Code - Clean Energy Right To Know Act]

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3 **Motion ordering submitted to the voters an Ordinance amending the Environment Code**  
4 **to define the terms Clean Energy, Green Energy, and Renewable Greenhouse Gas-free**  
5 **Energy to provide San Francisco residents and businesses accurate information**  
6 **regarding electric power; and requiring the Department of the Environment to identify**  
7 **power sourced from nuclear power plants, at an election to be held on November 3,**  
8 **2015.**

9

10 MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby submits the following ordinance to the  
11 voters of the City and County of San Francisco, at an election to be held on November 3,  
12 2015.

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14 **Ordinance amending the Environment Code to define the terms Clean Energy, Green**  
15 **Energy, and Renewable Greenhouse Gas-free Energy to provide San Francisco**  
16 **residents and businesses accurate information regarding electric power; and requiring**  
17 **the Department of the Environment to identify power sourced from nuclear power**  
18 **plants.**

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20 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain font.  
21 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
22 **Deletions to Codes** are in ~~italics Times New Roman font~~.  
23 **Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or  
24 parts of tables.

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24 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

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1 Section 1. The Environment Code is hereby amended by adding Chapter 21,  
2 consisting of Sections 2101, 2102, 2103, and 2104, to read as follows:

3 **CHAPTER 21: CLEAN ENERGY FULL DISCLOSURE ORDINANCE**

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5 **SEC. 2101. FINDINGS.**

6 (a) All entities that provide electric power to end-use consumers in the state are required to  
7 comply with the California Renewable Portfolio Standard (“RPS”), which was established in 2002  
8 under Senate Bill 1078, accelerated in 2006 under Senate Bill 107 and expanded in 2011 under Senate  
9 Bill 2. The RPS mandates that 33% of electricity sold to consumers must be generated by eligible  
10 renewable energy resources by 2020.

11 (b) All public and private utilities and retail electricity providers are allowed under State  
12 law to use unbundled renewable energy credits for a certain portion of their compliance requirement  
13 for the RPS.

14 (c) There is no uniform standard for what constitutes Clean Energy, Green Energy, or  
15 Renewable Greenhouse Gas-free Energy, which can lead to customer confusion, misunderstanding of  
16 the definition of renewable energy, and conflicting claims regarding the source or environmental  
17 impacts of the electricity provided to San Franciscans.

18 (d) San Francisco residents and businesses deserve to have accurate information regarding  
19 the sources and environmental impacts of the energy provided to them.

20 (e) In 2013, 22% of Pacific Gas & Electric’s (“PG&E”) power was sourced from nuclear  
21 power produced by the utility’s Diablo Canyon nuclear plant.

22 (f) Because the processing of uranium ore and other inputs to nuclear power plants  
23 requires the large scale burning of fossil fuels, nuclear generated electricity is neither an eligible  
24 renewable resource nor greenhouse gas-free. Processing uranium ore and other inputs also creates  
25 hazardous waste that can have detrimental environmental impacts.

1           (g) In response to interest from City leaders and community members, the San Francisco  
2 Public Utilities Commission (“SFPUC”) is developing a Community Choice Aggregation (“CCA”)  
3 program, CleanPowerSF, that will enable City residents and businesses to purchase electric energy  
4 that has a higher renewable energy content than is required under the RPS, is substantially greenhouse  
5 gas-free, and contains no nuclear power. CleanPowerSF plans to commence service in early 2016.

7           **SEC. 2102. CLEAN, GREEN, AND RENEWABLE GREENHOUSE GAS-FREE ENERGY;**

8           **DEFINITION.**

9           For all City programs and expenditures, the terms Clean Energy, Green Energy, Renewable  
10 Greenhouse Gas-free Energy or similar terms used to describe the source or environmental impact of  
11 electric energy means energy from eligible renewable energy resources as defined in State law, and  
12 resources set forth in the RPS under Public Utilities Code § 399.30(j). The terms Clean Energy, Green  
13 Energy, Renewable Greenhouse Gas-free Energy, or similar terms used to describe the source or  
14 environmental impact of electric energy do not include electricity from nuclear power resources.

16           **SEC. 2103. DISCLOSURE OF ENERGY RESOURCES.**

17           (a) The Director of the Department of the Environment or his or her designee (collectively,  
18 “Director”) shall inform electric customers in San Francisco of any electricity providers whose power  
19 content includes nuclear power. The Director shall rely upon the state-mandated power source  
20 disclosure regulations (Public Utilities Code section 398.1 et seq.) to determine the power content of  
21 electricity providers.

22           (b) The Director shall consult with the SFPUC on any notices, and the Director and SFPUC  
23 shall jointly provide notices if they so choose. If the SFPUC chooses, the notice may also state that the  
24 City’s CCA program does not use nuclear power.

1           **SEC. 2104. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

2           (a) Consistent with the Charter and applicable State and federal law, this Chapter 21 shall  
3 not apply to the extent its requirements would conflict with those laws or otherwise interfere with the  
4 discharge of functions placed under the direct jurisdiction of a department by the Charter. Nothing in  
5 this Chapter shall be interpreted or applied so as to create any requirement, power, or duty in conflict  
6 with any State or federal law.

7           (b) If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Chapter 21, or any  
8 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a  
9 decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining  
10 portions or applications of this Chapter. The People of San Francisco hereby declare that they would  
11 have adopted this Chapter and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, and word  
12 not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any other portion of this Chapter or  
13 application thereof would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

14           (c) The Board of Supervisors may amend this Chapter 21 by ordinance if the amendment  
15 furtheres the purposes of this Chapter.

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17           Section 2. In the event that this initiative ordinance and another measure or measures  
18 regarding the definitions of the terms Clean Energy, Green Energy, or Renewable  
19 Greenhouse Gas-free Energy in any respect shall appear on the same Citywide election  
20 ballot, the provisions of such other measures shall be deemed to be in conflict with this  
21 ordinance. In the event that this initiative ordinance shall receive a greater number of  
22 affirmative votes, the provisions of this ordinance shall prevail in their entirety and each and  
23 every provision of the other measure or measures shall be null and void in their entirety. In  
24 the event that the other measure or measures shall receive a greater number of votes, the  
25 provisions of this initiative ordinance shall take effect to the extent permitted by law.

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
2 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

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4 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
5 THERESA L. MUELLER  
6 Deputy City Attorney

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