FILE NO. 070096

RESOLUTION NO.

1	[Urging Closure of Potrero Power Plant.]
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3	Resolution urging Mirant Corporation to commit to the City now that it will permanently
4	close the Potrero Power Plant when the Reliability Must Run contract for the facility is
5	removed, and urging Mirant to divest itself of ownership of the site, and reaffirming the
6	City's commitment to closing the Potrero Power Plant as soon as feasible, and urging
7	all interested State and Federal agencies to facilitate the closure of the Potrero Power
8	Plant, so that the site may be developed in a manner more in harmony with
9	surrounding neighborhoods and sound public and environmental health.
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11	WHEREAS, The City and community have been committed to the replacement of the
12	old, inefficient, polluting power plants in southeast San Francisco for many years; and
13	WHEREAS, The City and community have worked with the California Independent
14	System Operator (ISO) to develop an Action Plan for San Francisco, which sets forth the
15	conditions necessary to close the Hunters Point and Potrero Power Plants; and
16	WHEREAS, The Hunters Point Power Plant was permanently closed in May 2006; and
17	WHEREAS, Ordinance 124-01 required that San Francisco oppose any application for
18	a proposed siting, expansion or development of fossil fuel power generation at the Potrero
19	Power Plant, and deny any San Francisco governmental approval that would facilitate such
20	generation and withhold the City's approval of any lease, license, permit, easement or other
21	agreement for such facility unless certain minimum conditions were met; and
22	WHEREAS, Mirant Corporation's Potrero Power Plant expansion proposal was
23	terminated by the California Energy Commission on March 1, 2006; and
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1	WHEREAS, The ISO's Action Plan for San Francisco provides that the Potrero Power
2	Plant will not be needed to ensure electric reliability once certain electric system
3	improvements are in place; and
4	WHEREAS, The City anticipates that the required electric system improvements could
5	be in place by the end of 2008; and
6	WHEREAS, The Regional Water Quality Control Board, on May 10, 2006, renewed the
7	discharge permit for Potrero Power Plant Unit 3 only until December 31, 2008 and stated its
8	intent to prohibit the plant's discharge of once-through cooling water after that date unless
9	Mirant can show that such discharges have no significant adverse impacts on San Francisco
10	Bay; and
11	WHEREAS, Given the record of harm from once-through cooling, Mirant will not be
12	able to show that discharges from the plant avoid significantly harming the Bay; and
13	WHEREAS, The City has stated its commitment to oppose the use of once-through
14	cooling at the Potrero Power Plant after December 2008; and
15	WHEREAS, The Potrero Power plant is adjacent to the Dogpatch neighborhood, which
16	in recent years has attracted hundreds of new residential units; and
17	WHEREAS, The Potrero Power Plant is adjacent to the Port of San Francisco's 14 acre
18	Pier 70 Mixed-Use Opportunity Area; and
19	WHEREAS, Live/work and loft developments are located within 1,000 feet of the
20	Potrero Power Plant site; and
21	WHEREAS, The City seeks to ensure that cumulative impacts from industrial
22	emissions do not adversely impact the residential communities in Dogpatch, Potrero Hill and
23	Bayview/Hunters Point; and
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1	WHEREAS, the California Energy Commission has recognized Southeast San
2	Francisco as a minority community entitled to environmental justice; and
3	WHEREAS, In Resolution No. 827-02, the Board of Supervisors endorsed the
4	"Electricity Resource Plan" developed by the Public Utilities Commission and Department of
5	the Environment to guide the City in meeting its electricity demand in a sustainable manner;
6	and
7	WHEREAS, conservation activities are increasing, energy efficient products are being
8	produced and utilized in greater numbers, and renewable energy generation plans are being
9	implemented; and
10	WHEREAS, Appropriate development of the Potrero Power Plant site is an important
11	part of the City's ongoing effort to revitalize the Central Waterfront area; now, therefore, be it
12	RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges Mirant Corporation to commit to the
13	City now that it will close the Potrero Power Plant when the Reliability Must Run contract for
14	the facility is removed; and, be it
15	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges Mirant Corporation to
16	divest itself of ownership of the site; and, be it
17	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reaffirms the City's commitment
18	to closing the Potrero Power Plant as soon as feasible; and, be it
19	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges all interested State and
20	Federal agencies to facilitate the closure of the Potrero Power Plant, so that the site may be
21	developed in a manner more in harmony with surrounding neighborhoods and sound public
22	and environmental health.
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