FILE NO. 070176

**RESOLUTION NO.** 

1	[Accept-Expend Foundation Grant]			
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3	Resolution authorizing the Department of the Environment to accept and expend a			
4	grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the Sidney E. Frank Foundation to carry out the			
5	critical task of engaging key stakeholders and interest groups to solicit input and build			
6	support for a tidal energy project.			
7				
8	WHEREAS, Based on the evaluation of responses to a request for proposal, the			
9	Sidney E. Frank Foundation has selected the Department of the Environment's Energy			
10	Program to be the recipient of \$200,000 in funding to engage key stakeholders in a process to			
11	build support for a tidal energy in the San Francisco Bay; and,			
12	WHEREAS, In May 2003, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted resolution			
13	296-03 to support the development of a pilot project for electric power generation from tidal			
14	energy in San Francisco Bay; and,			
15	WHEREAS, Building a tidal energy project at the Golden Gate will help the City meet			
16	its growing energy needs from a clean, renewable, locally available source, and serve as a			
17	catalyst for other large-scale, innovative renewable energy projects not only around the state			
18	and country, but also for the rest of the world; and,			
19	WHEREAS, the San Francisco Department of the Environment and San Francisco			
20	Public Utilities Commission are working together to develop a small-scale pilot project to test			
21	the applicability of the best available tidal energy technology in our waters, and to understand			
22	the potential environmental impacts; and,			
23	WHEREAS, San Francisco's unique tidal energy resource is unmatched in California or			
24	anywhere else in the lower 48 states; and,			

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2	coupled with the depth of water below the bridge itself, provide a near-perfect setting for the
3	deployment of a tidal energy generation system; and,
4	WHEREAS, It is conservatively estimated that the Golden Gate site has 35.5
5	megawatts of extractable average annual power, and that 15-17 average megawatts of this
6	power could be extracted by technologies currently in various stages of development; and,
7	WHEREAS, The cost of electricity generated, assuming incentives similar to those
8	provided to other renewable resources, is estimated at 6-9 cents per kilowatt-hour-a cost
9	competitive with current wind and natural gas generation; and,
10	WHEREAS, Tidal power has been used around the world since the early 1900s, but

WHEREAS, The volume and speed of water passing through the Golden Gate,

WHEREAS, Tidal power has been used around the world since the early 1900s, but
 never at the large, environmentally friendly scale becoming available today; and,

12 WHEREAS, Building on advances in the wind and off-shore oil industries, tidal power 13 generation has advanced significantly with improvements in turbine technologies; and,

14 WHEREAS, The grant does not require an ASO amendment; and,

15 WHEREAS, The grant budget does not include provision for indirect costs, however

16 does include provision for \$39,870 for departmental overhead; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors authorizes the
18 Director of the Department of the Environment to accept and expend funding in the amount of
19 \$200,000 from the Sidney E. Frank Foundation to engage key stakeholders in a process to

20 build support for a tidal energy project at the Golden Gate.

22	Recommended:	Approved:	
23			Mayor
24	Department Head	Approved:	
25			Controller

Mayor Gavin Newsom BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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