

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: April 1, 2026

TO: Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council

FROM: Eugene D. Seroka, Executive Director
Harbor Department, Mail Stop 260

David W. Hanson, Interim General Manager
Department of Water and Power, Mail Stop 800

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO MOTION COUNCIL FILE 24-0916

Motion CF 24-0916 (McOsker--Yaroslavsky) requests the Harbor Department (POLA, the Port) in coordination with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) report annually on power outages or power surges at the Port and the appropriate response for these incidents.

For the purposes of this report to the City Council, engineering staff from POLA and LADWP reviewed events spanning from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, and can be described in three broad categories:

- Direct Outage: LADWP outage on the main electric circuit serving POLA
- Sympathetic Outage: outage on a LADWP alternate or other Receiving Station-Q Section B circuit that may have caused a voltage incident impacting customer equipment
- Customer Outage: an outage occurring at a customer industrial station on customer equipment. This would be either POLA infrastructure or Marine Terminal Operator (MTO) equipment

Eighteen incidents occurred during this period: Six (6) were direct outages, ten (10) were sympathetic outages; and two (2) were customer outages. The response to each interruption is unique to the underlying cause, but the entity responsible for responding to the interruption is generally consistent with the type of outage. Both LADWP and POLA respond to direct and sympathetic outages; POLA and their tenants respond to customer outages.

The Port of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power continue their partnership and commitment to providing excellent customer service. On July 15, 2025, the general managers of POLA and LADWP met with Councilmember McOsker and the presidents of APM Terminals, Fenix Marine Services, Everport Terminal Services, TraPac, West Basin Container Terminal, and Yusen Terminal as well as the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association to continue to work together on understanding how power interruptions impact the terminals. The meeting resulted in continued commitment

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from the departments to work on short-term and long-term resolutions. A follow up meeting with the same participants was held on March 26, 2026.

The Departments' short-term actions include LADWP launching their Enhanced Outage Notification protocol whereby each MTO and POLA staff on the Outage Contact List are immediately notified of all 34.5kV interruptions from Receiving Station Q-Section B; LADWP hosting a Power Quality Workshop for MTOs and POLA; improving communication with PMSA, MTOs, and POLA including sharing root causes for Direct Outages; and agreeing to host semi-annual meetings with PMSA and MTOs to discuss efforts to improve Power Quality and Reliability. LADWP also revised circuits feeding each MTO terminal to prioritize circuits with historically fewer interruptions.

In December 2024, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) kicked off the Power Quality and Reliability Study to assess current power quality and provide actionable recommendations to LADWP, MTOs, and POLA. From March to April 2025, EPRI collected data from the MTOs and LADWP and completed on-site visits to assess equipment and system configurations. In February 2026, EPRI completed the power quality assessment analyses and reports with recommendations for all the MTOs. Presentations were scheduled with each terminal operator to review the findings and discuss recommended actions to improve overall power quality. Also in February 2026, EPRI provided a report and presentation of LADWP's distribution system with a comprehensive assessment, including analysis and recommendations. EPRI will then provide an overall workshop summary presentation to all stakeholders. The study is targeted to be completed by May 2026. The goal of EPRI's study is to provide all stakeholders with short-term and long-term recommendations at the lowest cost possible to improve power quality and reliability.

Additionally, the LADWP created a centralized dashboard (<https://tinyurl.com/dwppola>) to track both short-term and long-term action plans coordinated among LADWP, POLA, and MTOs. The dashboard provides a shared platform to monitor action items, responsible parties, schedules, and implementation status, improving transparency, accountability, and coordination across agencies and stakeholders.

For the long-term, LADWP and POLA are developing the Zero Emission Port Electrification and Operations (ZEPEO) project to improve LADWP Grid Reliability and add 200 Mega Watts (MW) of power for MTOs and POLA. The ZEPEO project underwent California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review, and the LADWP Board approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) on March 24, 2026. ZEPEO will deliver the additional power required for each MTO to meet the San Pedro Bay Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP) Goal of converting Container Handling Equipment (CHE) to Zero Emission by 2030. LADWP and POLA will continue to meet with MTOs as the ZEPEO construction documents are developed, and in anticipation of starting construction in 2026 to meet the requirements of the \$412-million Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Ports Program (CPP) grant in 2028. LADWP's designs are incorporating power quality and reliability initiatives to mitigate and minimize power interruptions. LADWP and POLA will be sharing Quarterly ZEPEO Project Updates to keep MTOs updated on our progress.

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The Port of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power are committed to providing excellent customer service and will continue to work with tenants at the Port on solutions to address power reliability concerns. Questions regarding this report may be addressed to:

Ms. Dina Aryan-Zahlan, POLA Deputy Executive Director of Development at (310) 732-3510.

Mr. Paul Habib, LADWP Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (213) 367-3846.

EDS/JQ:mew

cc: Anissa Raja, Council District 15
Lilly Sarafian, Council District 2
Erick Martell, Mayor's Office
Daniela Simunovic, Mayor's Office