

Communication from Public

Name: Kendall

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Council File No: 25-1360

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, my name is Kendall, and I am an LADWP ratepayer and work with Communities for a Better Environment. I am writing this comment to (1) urge City Council to issue a continuance of the appeal or, if not, (2) to grant the appeal. First, a continuance should be issued because this vote was scheduled last minute, with extremely little notice to the appellant groups, and right before a major holiday. Some groups, like CBE, are out the entire week, with many staff members inaccessible -- I am personally writing this while visiting family across the country and thus will be unable to attend. We have been waiting for this appeal to be agendized for over three months, since March. Practically any other week would've allowed our groups a proper chance to state our case and reasons for appeal. By scheduling it last minute, right before recess and the upcoming holiday, appellant groups were not afforded this opportunity. A continuance would allow appellant groups their fair right to be heard, rather than rushing through the appeal with a significant number of staff members devoted to this being absent. If a continuance is not granted, City Council should grant the appeal. LADWP has three years to meet its OTC compliance deadline, and it still does not know where it will get hydrogen from. It still will have to do an entire CEQA analysis for the hydrogen itself and for the hydrogen transportation process, and then the method of transportation will have to be constructed. All these steps will take well over three years--as such, allowing this project to continue is accepting that LADWP is essentially constructing a natural gas power plant unless and until it can find hydrogen, get the turbines, and get the infrastructure in place. Furthermore, there is a backlog on hydrogen and hydrogen projects both globally and at a national scale. Projects are being dropped frequently, even as recently as this morning:
<https://www.hydrogeninsight.com/production/air-products-scraps-4-5bn-us-blue-hydrogen-project/2-1-2011558>. As such, there is no reason to believe that LADWP will be able to create a project that fits its project description, a requirement of CEQA.