

Communication from Public

Name: Sean Kearns

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Council File No: 25-1469

Comments for Public Posting: Please see the attached letter from U.S. Congresswoman Nanette Barragán in support of Motion #25-1469, introduced by Councilmember Tim McOsker. Sincerely, Sean Kearns Senior Field Representative & Grants Coordinator Office of Congresswoman Nanette Barragán (CA-44) 4201 Long Beach Boulevard, Suite 422 Long Beach, CA 90807 (o) 310|831-1799

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January 12, 2026

The Honorable Public Safety Committee
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N Spring St
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Support for Agenda Item 4 - Council File #25-1469

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Public Safety Committee:

As the Representative of California's 44th Congressional District, which includes Harbor Gateway, I strongly support Agenda Item 4, introduced by Councilmember Tim McOsker, and urge the Los Angeles City Council Public Safety Committee to approve this item.

This item seeks to address longstanding environmental and public safety concerns at the JCI Jones Chemicals, Inc. (JCI) facility located at 1401 West Del Amo Boulevard in Harbor Gateway. This chemical facility has violated the federal Clean Air Act, California Accidental Release Prevention Program, and Hazardous Materials Business Plan Program, and repeatedly failed to properly maintain their equipment as required by law. To this date, JCI has failed to correct some of the most alarming conditions, including a dilapidated roof structure located above hazardous material storage and critical process equipment.

At the federal level, JCI is one of nearly 12,000 chemical plants nationwide that are subject to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Risk Management Program (RMP). During a 2024 inspection, EPA identified several concerns, including corroded pipes and valves, improper storage of hazardous materials, a non-operational sensor which would fail to detect a chemical release, and the beforementioned damaged roof structure with unsecured and missing roof panels. The EPA investigation continued into 2025; however, the Trump administration has since stripped significant resources and staffing away from EPA and stated their intent to weaken the RMP. In late 2025, EPA reached an inadequate settlement agreement with JCI, which required the facility to pay a very small, insufficient fine and did not address all violations, including the deplorable roof structure.

The important agenda item before you would facilitate the collaboration of the Office of the City Attorney and multiple departments to explore the City's authority for criminal or civil enforcement, nuisance abatement, and other potential roles for the City to address concerns with

site operations, conditions, and emergency preparedness at JCI. Additionally, this item would direct various City departments to engage with JCI on the possibility of several safety initiatives, including the installation of a community warning system and a vegetation wall around the facility. These actions would be meaningful steps toward improving the public safety of my constituents in Harbor Gateway and neighboring communities.

In closing, I reiterate my support for Agenda Item 4 and urge the Public Safety Committee to approve the item at their next meeting. Thank you for your partnership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Nanette Barragán
Member of Congress