

Office of Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry San Diego City Council District 1

For Immediate Release

July 16, 2020 Contact: Moriah Gaynor mgaynor@sandiego.gov C: (619) 207-8616

Councilmember Barbara Bry Advocates for More Analysis and Review of New Gas and Electric Franchise "Invitation to Bid"

San Diego — Today I voted 'No" on the measure to move the draft Invitation to Bid for a new gas and electric franchise agreement to the full City Council. This is a rushed deal that lacks community input, independent review, and leaves too much on the table.

The City of San Diego's 50-year gas and electric franchise agreement with San Diego Gas & Electric Company expires January 2021. Today the Environment Committee reviewed the draft Invitation to Bid, prepared by city officials, which provides the basic criteria under which SDG&E and other interested companies can submit a formal proposal. This is one of the most important issues the Council will consider in order for the City to meet its clean energy goals and get the best deal for San Diego residents.

I was disappointed that the Committee voted 3-1 to move the item forward to the full Council. At committee, I asked if the City were to delay finalizing an agreement, would SDG&E be able to stop serving our residents; the answer was no, they would not be.

The consultants' proposed terms and conditions for the Invitation to Bid include:

- 20-year term agreement
- A minimum upfront payment of \$62 million for both electric and natural gas franchises
- 3 percent electric franchise fee (same as 1970 agreement,)
- 3.5 percent gas franchise fee (increased by .5% from 1970 agreement)
- Clause requiring the utility to make good faith efforts to support the city's Climate Action Plan
- Provision for a Joint Policies Guide to address greenhouse gas reductions with an emphasis on equity and environmental justice for communities of concern.

While this proposal possesses several positive terms, more analysis is necessary to secure the best deal for San Diegans.

Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry represents San Diego City Council District 1, which includes the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, and University City.