



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

April 1, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Submitted By: Darron Poulsen, Water Resources Director

**SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2019-43 IN SUPPORT OF
BALANCED ENERGY SOLUTIONS AND LOCAL CHOICE**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-43 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF POMONA, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING BALANCED
ENERGY SOLUTIONS AND LOCAL CHOICE**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A number of state agencies are increasingly proposing new legislation and regulations looking to eliminate energy choices and mandating solutions to fully electrify homes and businesses in the future. These mandates eliminate local control and customer choice which suppresses innovation, reduces reliability, and unnecessarily increases costs for Pomona residents and businesses.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for the City with the recommended action.

DISCUSSION:

The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and reducing the effect of climate change on our citizens are primary concerns of the Pomona City Council and staff. The City is taking a much more active role in helping promote ideas and measures that seek to meet or exceed emission reduction regulations. Supporting Resolution No. 2019-43 (Attachment 1) is a positive step towards communicating our City's desire to protect the interests of citizens to have a continued choice in their preferred energy solutions for their homes and businesses.

This resolution does not take a position against electrification. It does emphasize the desire of the City Council to allow for customer choice. The cost associated with electrical appliances and the long term costs to operate these items is greater than gas operated equipment. It is important to recognize that full electrification may be more costly for some residents, particularly the most financially vulnerable within our community (e.g. fixed incomes, elderly, working families, etc.).

One of the additional benefits of maintaining a balanced energy solution is to allow alternative sources to be developed and available in case of electrical grid failure. The State's focus on electrical energy delivery discourages investment in alternative energy sources.

Similar to the electrical companies, the Southern California Gas Company has also been doing its part to reduce greenhouse gases by promoting biogas or renewable natural gas. These energy alternatives come from sources such as green waste, wastewater treatment plants, food waste and agriculture waste. They can capture this methane, which would normally go into the atmosphere, and put it into their pipelines for customer use.

Supporting energy choice does not come at a cost to the environment. Both electricity and gas energy suppliers are concerned with greenhouse gas emissions and are seeking methods to protect the environment. By supporting the recommended resolution the City Council is making a statement to protect customer choice, protect customers from higher energy costs and making a positive decision for a better environment in the future.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council has the following alternatives:

- 1) Adopt Resolution No. 2019-43; or
- 2) Receive and file this report

Prepared by:

Darron Poulsen
Water Resources Director

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment No. 1 – Resolution No. 2019-43