DOCKETED	
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Project Title:	Appeal by Los Angeles Department of Water & Power re Renewables Portfolio Standard Certification Eligibility
TN #:	213041
Document Title:	31 Kern River 2000 City Council Action (Bates Nos. LA000562- LA000564)
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J. MICHAEL CAREY City Clerk

When making inquiries relative to this matter refer to File No.

99-0283

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



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RICHARD J. RIORDAN MAYOR

Reg. # 001-014 Bod Mtg 7-18-00

REP 27 2000

Board of Water & Power Comirs CITY OF LOS ANGELES

September 20, 2000

Honorable Richard Riordan, Mayor Board of Water & Power Commissioners Attn: J. Burmahln Department of Water & Power City Attorney Office of Administrative & Research Services Chief Legislative Analyst Kern River Gas Transmission Company 295 Chipeta Way Salt Lake City, Utah 84108 Attn: Kirk Morgan

RE: TERM DIFFERENTIATED RATE PRECEDENT AGREEMENT WITH KERN RIVER GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY

At the meeting of the Council held <u>September 19, 2000</u>, the following action was taken:

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TO THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Your COMMERCE, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Committee

reports as follows:

<u>Yes No</u>

Public Comments XX

COMMERCE, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT relative to a Term Differentiated Rate Precedent Agreement between the Department of Water and Power (DWP) and the Kern River Gas Transmission Company (KRGT).

Recommendation for Council action:

CONCUR with the Board of Water and Power Commissioners' (Board) Resolution No. 001-014, authorizing DWP to enter into Term Differentiated Rate (TDR) gas transportation service with KRGT.

<u>Fiscal Impact Statement</u>: The Office of Administrative and Research Services (OARS) reports that the Term Differentiated Rate Precedent Agreement will have no immediate impact on the existing contract expenditures. If the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approves a TDR structure which revises the gas transportation tariff, DWP would have the option to develop and approve an amendment to the existing agreement, and thus impact expenditures. Such an amendment will also require separate Council approval.

TIME LIMIT FILE - SEPTEMBER 19, 2000 LAST DAY FOR COUNCIL TO ACT - SEPTEMBER 19, 2000

Summary:

At the August 8, 2000, meeting of the Commerce, Energy and Natural Resources Committee, the Committee considered an OARS report dated May 23, 2000, and the Board's communication relative to authorizing entering into TDR gas transportation service with Kern. This agreement replaces a previous agreement, BP99-002, adopted by the Board on February 16, 1999, and approved by Council on April 7, 1999, which authorized DWP to enter into a TDR Precedent Agreement with KRGT in which DWP would receive lower gas transportation rates in exchange for extending the term of its gas transportation contract with KRGT. KRGT has offered to enter into a newly substituted TDR Precedent Agreement, BP 99-002A, that provides enhanced provisions favorable to DWP.

DWP reports that the rate structure of the existing KRGT agreement obligates DWP to pay a rate that is currently much higher than the market value for such service. Under the terms of the existing agreement all KRGT firm transportation customers, including DWP, are obligated to pay for such natural gas transportation service at rates approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). At the current FERC approved rates, DWP is obligated to pay approximately \$22 million per year in reservation charges for the use of the KRGT's system until the contract expires in 2007.

DWP reports that TDR Precedent Agreement BP99-002A will allow DWP and KRGT to substitute an amended transportation agreement to include a reduced TDR rate for a 15 year term, taking effect on October 1, 2001. This 15 year term will effectively extend the DWP and KRGT existing Agreement duration by approximately nine years and seven months. This reduces the annual above-market reservation costs of the existing agreement by approximately 36 percent. DWP reports that by obtaining interstate natural gas transportation service from KRGT at reduced and competitive TDR rates, DWP will significantly reduce its natural gas transportation costs. DWP reports that in order to prepare and develop a reduced rate structure for an extended contract duration, KRGT must obtain commitments in the form of a TDR Precedent Agreement from all prospective customers desiring TDR service. Following receipt of the commitments from all existing and new KRGT customers in the form of TDR Precedent Agreements, KRGT will seek FERC approval of the new rate structure. KRGT and DWP, as well as other KRGT TDR will then develop amendments to their existing customers, agreements, as necessary, to accommodate the TDR rate structure concurrent with the FERC approved rates. DWP additionally reports that it has the discretion not to take service at TDR rates if the initial rate eventually approved by the FERC exceeds that specified by DWP in its Precedent Agreement.

The Commerce, Energy and Natural Resources Committee concurred with the Board's recommendation and Resolution No. 001-014, authorizing entering into TDR gas transportation service with the Kern River Gas Transmission Company. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMERCE, ENERGY A VATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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