January 25, 2019

Ms. Lora W. Johnson Clerk of Council City Hall - Room 1E09 1300 Perdido Street New Orleans, LA 70112

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Please accept this correspondence to the New Orleans City Council regarding a recent push poll on the Application of Entergy New Orleans, Inc. for Approval to Construct New Orleans Power Station and Request for Cost Recovery and Timely Relief, Docket No. UD-16-02 and Resolution 18-65.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely/

Sascha Bollag

January 25, 2018

To: Members of the Council of the City of New Orleans

Mr. Jason R. Williams, Councilmember-at-Large

Ms. Helena Moreno, Councilmember-at-Large

Mr. Joseph I. Giarrusso, District "A" Councilmember

Mr. Jay Banks, District "B" Councilmember

Ms. Kristen Gisleson Palmer, District "C" Councilmember

Mr. Jared C. Brossett, District "D" Councilmember

Ms. Cyndi Nguyen, District "E" Councilmember

Re: Recent Entergy Push Poll Regarding the Application of Entergy New Orleans, Inc. for Approval to Construct New Orleans Power Station and Request for Cost Recovery and Timely Relief, Docket No. UD-16-02 and Resolution 18-65

Dear City Councilmembers:

I write to you both as a deeply concerned resident of the City of New Orleans and as an attorney representing VAYLA New Orleans, Justice and Beyond, 350 New Orleans, Sierra Club, and two individuals in the Open Meetings Law challenge to City Council Resolution 18-65, which granted Entergy New Orleans' application to construct a 128 megawatt peaking gas plant in New Orleans East.

There is a well-established history of controversy surrounding the approval of this resolution, including the use of professional actors paid to take up seats and speak in support of Entergy's proposal, and dozens of community members being locked out of various meetings. As Councilmembers themselves have acknowledged in statements to the public, these and other "nefarious practice[s]" by Entergy and its contractors "compromised" the two-year approval process, were "in contravention to the true democratic, deliberative process" and "fly in the face of the dignity, courtesy, and respect of traditional discourse vital to our democratic process."

In fact, Entergy's malfeasance was deemed so egregious that following the release of a report by independent investigators hired by the City Council to investigate the extent of

Entergy's malfeasance, the Council proposed a \$5 million fine on Entergy for its role in the paid actor scandal. On January 18, 2019, the City Council originally scheduled a special meeting of the full council to introduce a resolution to "rescind and repeal" the Council's previous approval of Resolution 18-65, and to consider the proposed \$5 million fine. However, this special meeting was cancelled and the ENO related resolutions will now be considered at the Utility Committee meeting on February 13 and a full Council meeting on February 21.

Ostensibly, the meeting was moved to allow for "maximum public input." I hope that this is in fact the reason for the delay, and not to allow Entergy time to lobby against these proposed actions. However, a recent phone survey by Entergy gives me great pause. I received one such call this past weekend. The call began with statements along the lines of, "Entergy has a responsibility to provide safe consistent power to the City of New Orleans" and "Entergy should be working to keep its infrastructure updated and in good shape." For each statement, the caller was asked to select "agree" or "disagree" (or "unsure"), and then "strongly agree" or "strongly disagree." Then there was a statement that was very dismissive of renewable energy sources, alleging that they are "unreliable." Next, there was a question specifically about the March 8, 2018 City Council vote to approve the plant, asking, "Do you agree with the City Council's vote to approve it?" There was also a very convoluted and confusing and misleading statement about renewable resources, equating natural gas with a renewable resource.

It seems that Entergy is attempting to conduct a survey with questions specifically designed to elicit desired responses, the results of which (assuming they are favorable) will then be used to create a false impression of community support for the plant. However, given my direct, first-hand experience with this survey, I believe it is a "push poll" and does not in any way represent a reliable measure of community support for the proposed Entergy plant, nor does

it appear that ENO's action was taken in the spirit of making sure the democratic process is upheld and respected. I find this highly problematic, particularly following all the previous wrongdoing by Entergy.

Respectfully,

Sascha Bollag

Lora W. Johnson

From:

Sascha Bollag <sbollag@greenjusticelegal.org>

Sent:

Friday, January 25, 2019 10:03 AM

To:

Lora W. Johnson

Subject:

Correspondence to the City Council

Attachments:

2019.01.25 Ltr re Entergy Survey-Signed.pdf

EMAIL FROM EXTERNAL SENDER

Dear Ms. Johnson,

Please accept this correspondence to the New Orleans City Council regarding a recent push poll on the Application of Entergy New Orleans, Inc. for Approval to Construct New Orleans Power Station and Request for Cost Recovery and Timely Relief, Docket No. UD-16-02 and Resolution 18-65.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely, Sascha Bollag