



February 12, 2025

Via Electronic Mail

Clerk of Council
Council of the City of New Orleans
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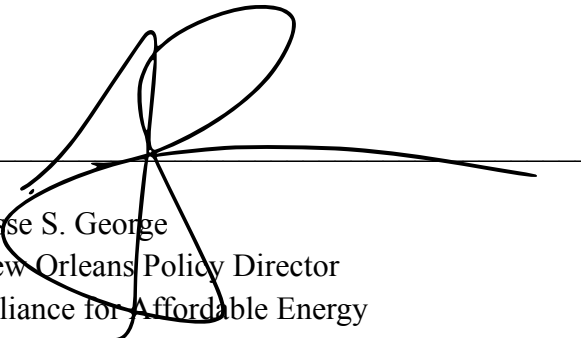
**Re: RESOLUTION AND ORDER ESTABLISHING A DOCKET AND
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE WITH RESPECT TO ACHIEVING 100%
RENEWABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY FOR THE CITY OF NEW
ORLEANS (UD-22-02)**

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Please find enclosed Energy Future New Orleans's (EFNO) letter to the New Orleans City Council. Please file the attached communication and this letter into the record of the docket captioned above. We will submit physical copies at your instruction. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Sincerely,



Jesse S. George
New Orleans Policy Director
Alliance for Affordable Energy

February 12, 2025
(Via Electronic Mail Only)

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Dear Council,

On January 6, 2022, the New Orleans City Council adopted resolution R-22-11, with the goal “to power all municipal operations with 100% renewable energy by January 2025.” Since that time, the Council has done virtually nothing to achieve its goal. On the contrary, Council members saw fit to close out 2024 by enfranchising a brand-new, private equity-backed, fossil gas-only utility.

Meanwhile, the city of Chicago just announced that it would meet its own goal of powering all municipal operations with renewable energy by 2025 by celebrating the construction of a new 593 MW solar farm¹, the largest east of the Mississippi River. In a deal with the developer of the project, the city has agreed to purchase enough of the installation’s output to power about 70% of municipal operations.

While the devastating effects of Hurricane Helene in Appalachia and the recent wildfires in the Los Angeles area underscore the fact that no location is safe from the effects of a changing climate, New Orleans is arguably more at-risk than Chicago being a coastal city that has already suffered multiple serious climate disasters in the last two decades. Yet, this Council continues to act with a lack of seriousness and urgency around climate change, with this complete failure to meet the goal you set for the City.

The Council has unique regulatory authority to make clean energy for New Orleans a daily reality. Among other measures, the Council should:

- Establish a program that leverages whatever federal funding and/or incentives that remain available under the new Administration to maximize access to and deployment of residential solar energy and storage systems
- Create a carveout for locally-generated renewable energy under the City’s Renewable and Clean Portfolio Standard
- Require Entergy New Orleans to remove the largest barrier to community solar by mandating consolidated billing for community solar subscribers

With uncertainty hovering over future federal disaster aid, New Orleans must at last begin to take climate change seriously if we hope to have a future here. No one else is going to do so for us.

Sincerely,

Katherine Prevost
President
Bunny Friend Neighborhood Association

Pastor Gregory Manning
Founder and Chair
Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate
Coalition

¹ <https://grist.org/cities/chicago-renewable-energy-black-diamond-solar/>

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Executive Director
Healthy GulfPenny

Marion Freistadt
Core Group
350 New Orleans

Bette Kussmann
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