

July 16, 2009
Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council
9747 Wheatland Avenue
Shadow Hills, Ca 91040

In support of a Rate Payers Advocate

To: Chairwoman Jan Perry Energy and Environment Committee

Whereas, the Rate Payers and citizens of Los Angeles have lost confidence in the governance and oversight of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (“DWP”);

Whereas, the DWP Board of Commissioners has not been a **vigilant watchdog for the Rate Payers;**

Whereas, existing oversight and governance is heavily influenced by political considerations;

Whereas, the Rate Payer Advocate’s role to review, analyze the operations, finances and management of the DWP on a timely and continuous bases and be given all necessary information;

Whereas, the Rate Payer Advocate will be an independent entity tom be the eyes and ears of the rate payers and citizens of Los Angeles;

Whereas, the Rate Payer Advocate will have a “**seat at the table**” of the DWP Board of Commissioners and the City Council to represent the interest and the impact on the rate payers, and the city;

Whereas, the Rate Payer Advocate would be totally funded by the DWP in an amount that will allow for staff and the tools necessary to adequately carry out these stated goals;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Foothill District Neighborhood Council supports the Rate Payers Advocate, in order to begin to restore the faith and confidence in the governance and oversight of the DWP, and order to provide the Rate Payers a better understanding of the affairs of the DWP, we strongly urge the DWP Board of Commissioners, and the City Council to establish and fully fund an independent Rate Payers Advocate.

Dale Gibson President of FTDNC

Billy Hays FTDNC LADWP MOU Oversight Committee Representative