

Resolution Honoring the Service of Dr. Frederick H. Pickel

WHEREAS, Dr. Frederick H. Pickel, Executive Director and Ratepayer Advocate of the City of Los Angeles' Office of Public Accountability, is retiring after a career of more than 50 years in the utility industry and consultancy, including 13 years of distinguished service to the City of Los Angeles and on behalf of the ratepayers of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pickel was appointed on Valentine's Day in February 2012 as the first-ever Executive Director and Ratepayer Advocate at the newly formed City Department the Office of Public Accountability (OPA), a department established after 78% of voters voted it into the City's Charter in March 2011; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pickel brought to this newly formed role his considerable education and decades-long experience in utilities—electric, gas, and wastewater, as well as public and investor-owned—in Federal and State commissions, and in consulting; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pickel led and directed a team responsible for conducting analyses of LADWP's actions and financial activities to determine their impact on LADWP's rates, ratepayers, and the more than 4 million residents of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pickel utilized the breadth of his utility industry experience and technical expertise to establish himself as a respected, trusted, reliable, and independent advocate for LADWP's ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pickel, through his assiduous commitment to data, critical thinking, analysis, and accountability, helped ensure transparency within LADWP's operations and actions and of their potential impacts to rates; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pickel, in his 13 years of service in this role, has shared with members of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles an extraordinary expanse of wisdom, insight, and professionalism while placing LADWP's ratepayers consistently at the forefront of his comments, analyses, conclusions, and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, due to the length of meetings and Dr. Pickel's kindness, he was admired for standing his ground after single word answers, puns, or humorous quips of uncommon sense; and

WHEREAS, with stoicism and grace, Dr. Pickel navigated the distractions to the mission of the OPA that arose throughout the years, including the campaign to "Can the Pickel"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pickel demonstrated immense generosity and dedication to the people of Los Angeles in continuing to stay on in this role beyond the conclusion of the limits to his term, to help see through the hiring process for his replacement; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pickel, upon his retirement, shall leave behind a legacy of accountability, integrity, care, and attention to detail; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Water and Power Commissioners, on behalf of the management of this Department, its employees, and the residents of the City of Los Angeles, thank and commend Dr. Pickel for his dedicated service, astute analysis, and commitment to transparency within LADWP for the benefit of all of Los Angeles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board and the management of LADWP extend to Dr. Pickel their utmost appreciation for his service, insights, and dedication, and offer him every best wish for a long, restful, and well-deserved retirement after working so tirelessly for the people of Los Angeles for more than a decade.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary, Assistant Secretary, or Acting Secretary of the Board be instructed to place this Resolution in minutes of this Board as a permanent record and that an engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented to Dr. Pickel in recognition of his loyal service to the people of Los Angeles.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Water and Power Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles at its meeting held on

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Secretary