

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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November 15, 2017
Start: 1:16 p.m.
Recess: 1:45 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm,
16th Fl.

B E F O R E:

COSTA G. CONSTANTINIDES
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Stephen T. Levin
Rory I. Lancman
Donovan J. Richards
Eric A. Ulrich

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

[sound check]

[pause]

[gavel]

CHAIRPERSON CONSTANTINIDES: Alright.

Good afternoon; I am Council Member Constantinides, chair of the Environmental Protection Committee and today the Committee will hear and vote on Intro 1637-A, a bill that requires New York City to develop a long-term energy plan and to create an energy policy subcommittee to guide the transition away from the use of fossil fuels.

Three years ago the Council enacted Local Law 66 of 2014 mandating to reduce our greenhouse gas 80 percent by 2050; this reduction will not happen by itself, we have to take many proactive steps to make it happen. This legislation is one of those steps; it requires that we create a long-term energy plan and an energy policy advisory subcommittee. The subcommittee will review our current energy use supply, develop a summary of the current citywide energy demand, and create a projection of the future citywide energy demand over the next four years.

The subcommittee's plan would also include an estimate of renewable energy sources

1 integrated into the energy supply, an accounting of
2 energy efficiency measures that have been deployed in
3 the city and specific recommendations of renewable
4 energy sources and energy efficiency measures that
5 could feasibly be developed and integrated by the
6 City.

7
8 New York City is responsible for one
9 percent of the greenhouse gases in the entire nation;
10 while New York City must continue to grow, we must
11 grow responsibly; that means we must meet our
12 commitment to reduce our greenhouse gases, which is
13 even that more urgent, as the federal government has
14 ceased to lead us in the right direction that New
15 York City must lead. The only sustainable way to the
16 future is to reduce and transition away from the use
17 of fossil fuels; this bill will help us develop the
18 plan to accomplish just that.

19 I wanna thank the lead sponsor of this
20 bill, Council Member Johnson for his leadership and
21 also recognize we have both Council Member Richards
22 from Queens and Council Member Levin from Brooklyn
23 here today. I wanna thank the staff who worked on
24 this bill -- Samara Swanston, our staff attorney;

2 Nadia Johnson, our policy analyst; Jonathan Seltzer,
3 our Finance Analyst.

4 With that, I recommend a yes vote and ask
5 the Committee Clerk to call the roll.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin,
7 Committee Clerk, roll call vote, Committee on
8 Environmental Protection, Introduction 1637-A. Chair
9 Constantinides.

10 CHAIRPERSON CONSTANTINIDES: I vote aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye and I'd
13 like to be added to the legislation as a co-sponsor.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I vote aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 3 in the
17 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
18 the item has been adopted by the Committee.

19 CHAIRPERSON CONSTANTINIDES: If we can
20 leave the vote open for a few minutes to accommodate
21 other members, and with that, we'll gavel this
22 committee hearing closed. Thank you.

23 [gavel]

24 [pause]

1 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 6

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call,
3 Committee on Environmental Protection, Introduction
4 1637-A. Council Member Ulrich.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you; I vote
6 aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now currently
8 stands at 4 in the affirmative.

9 [pause]

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call.
11 Council Member Lancman.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Yes.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote Committee on
14 Environmental Protection; item has been adopted by
15 the Committee 5 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative
16 and no abstentions.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date November 22, 2017