Resolution urging the California State Senate to pass Senate Bill No. 83, introduced by Senator Scott Wiener, which will impose set timelines for investor-owned utilities, such as Pacific Gas and Electric Company, to complete electrical interconnection work after receiving the necessary permits for essential development projects, including affordable housing; and requiring that they pay financial compensation to the project applicant if they fail to meet that timeline.

WHEREAS, San Francisco is in the midst of a housing affordability and homelessness crisis; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco's state-certified Housing Element plan calls for the production of over 82,000 homes, including over 46,000 affordable housing units, over the next eight years; and

WHEREAS, All new housing must connect to the electrical grid, a process known as interconnection, before it can be occupied; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco's affordable housing projects rely on Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) electrical distribution grid and infrastructure for interconnection, before these units can be occupied by San Francisco's low-income residents; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has historically experienced significant delays to the energization of essential projects such as affordable housing units attempting to interconnect to PG&E's electrical distribution grid; and

WHEREAS, PG&E has delayed City projects by imposing unnecessary requirements and costs, as well as lacking set timelines for key portions of the interconnection process which have contributed to significant delays and costs; and
WHEREAS, Since 2018, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) has reported 136 projects delayed by PG&E; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD) reports that 11 affordable housing projects have been significantly impacted by PG&E interconnection delays, creating cost overruns of $41 million to the City and County of San Francisco and San Francisco tax payers; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is facing a projected $780 million budget deficit over the next two years; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 83 will help mitigate harmful and unnecessary interconnection delays by investor-owned utility corporations, including PG&E, by imposing strict timelines to complete interconnection work after receiving the necessary permits, and requiring that they pay financial compensation to the project applicant if they fail to meet that timeline; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 83 will provide a much-needed enforcement mechanism by the State to hold investor-owned utilities accountable for delaying interconnection to affordable housing projects in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The State Legislation Committee of San Francisco voted to support Senate Bill 83 during its meeting on April 12, 2023; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the California State Legislature to pass Senate Bill 83, sponsored by Senator Scott Wiener; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of this Resolution to the Bill's primary sponsor, Senator Scott Wiener, additional members of San Francisco's State Legislative Delegation, and California Governor Gavin Newsom.
Resolution urging the California State Senate to pass Senate Bill No. 83, introduced by Senator Scott Wiener, which will impose set timelines for investor-owned utilities, such as Pacific Gas and Electric Company, to complete electrical interconnection work after receiving the necessary permits for essential development projects, including affordable housing; and requiring that they pay financial compensation to the project applicant if they fail to meet that timeline.

May 02, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/2/2023 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board