Resolution to Investigate the Potential of Moving PG&E to a Ratepayer Owned Model to Improve Accountability, Efficacy, and Affordability

WHEREAS Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has time and time again proven incapable of successfully mitigating wildfire risk, profiting more than fourteen billion dollars, a ten percent increase, in a year when almost ten thousand fires ravaged four million acres of California while simultaneously pleading guilty to 84 felony counts of involuntary manslaughter relating to the fires; and

WHEREAS PG&E has consistently put profits over people and continued to raise rates and grow profits, leading to nearly one in five Bay Area households struggling to pay their electricity bill despite soaring salaries and bonuses for CEOs and other high-up company executives; and

WHEREAS PG&E has been repeatedly found guilty of misconduct including judge-shopping, colluding with regulatory agencies, falsifying records, and attempting to stifle competition through 2010 Ballot Proposition 16,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls for the State of California to conduct a study into the feasibility of moving PG&E to a ratepayer owned model, a publicly owned utility (POU) model, and/or a community choice aggregation (CCA) model, including microgrids, and pursuant to the results of said study, to pursue a course of action to create the best outcome for California Residents in terms of the functionality and structure of Northern California's electrical utility.

Submitted by Ari Ohriner, Los Gatos High School Class of 2025

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