



**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
AGENDA REPORT**

CONSENT CALENDAR

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: Ken Stripling

DATE: March 9, 2021

SUBJECT: STATE LEGISLATION: SENATE BILL 533

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

PRESENTER: Masis Hagobian

RECOMMENDED ACTION

City Council adopt the City Council Legislative Committee recommendation to support Senate Bill 533 (Stern) and transmit position statements to Senator Henry Stern, Santa Clarita’s state legislative delegation, appropriate legislative committees, Governor Newsom, League of California Cities, and other stakeholder organizations.

BACKGROUND

Authored by Senator Henry Stern (D-27-Malibu), Senate Bill 533, among other things, requires electrical service providers to replace, harden, or underground any electrical infrastructure that experiences recurring de-energization events, as prescribed in the legislation.

Specifically, this bill requires electrical service providers to replace, harden, or underground, within 12 months, any infrastructure that experiences the following recurring de-energization events:

- Five or more de-energization events occurring on or after January 1, 2019
- Four or more de-energization events occurring on or after January 1, 2021
- Three or more de-energization events occurring on or after January 1, 2022
- Two or more de-energization events occurring on or after January 1, 2023

Additionally, this bill requires electrical service providers, upon request, to collaborate with local governments within its service area to identify critical circuits and microgrid projects.

The City has experienced several Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events, at times, impacting over 25,000 businesses and households at periods of over 24 consecutive hours of power loss. Two major and recent PSPS events occurred in Santa Clarita on December 23, 2020, and December 24, 2020, that left thousands of residents without power and many with damaged

devices or forced to discard perishable food items during a major holiday week.

The recommendation to support is consistent with the City of Santa Clarita 2021 Executive and Legislative Platform. Specifically, Component 3 under the “State” section advises that the City Council “Support legislation, regulatory proposals, or administrative actions to accelerate the development and implementation of enhanced electrical utility infrastructure, including undergrounding of utility equipment, that ensures reliable utility service and public safety and prevents the use of public safety power shutoffs.”

Senate Bill 533 may be heard by a policy committee beginning March 20, 2021.

The City Council Legislative Committee met on February 26, 2021, and recommends that the City Council adopt a “support” position on Senate Bill 533.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

1. Adopt an “oppose” position on Senate Bill 533
2. Adopt a “neutral” position on Senate Bill 533
3. Take no action on Senate Bill 533
4. Refer Senate Bill 533 back to the Legislative Committee
5. Other action, as determined by the City Council

FISCAL IMPACT

The resources required to implement the recommended action are contained within the City of Santa Clarita's adopted FY 2020-21 budget.

ATTACHMENTS

Senate Bill 533 - Bill Text