Los Angeles Joins NYC to consider endorsement of the Fossil
Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

Councilmember Paul Koretz calls on Los Angeles to endorse the treaty and for the U.S. to
make the non-proliferation of fossil fuels the centerpiece of national security policy.

LOS ANGELES – Yesterday, a resolution to endorse the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty was
introduced to the Los Angeles City Council.

Councilmember Paul Koretz from Council District 5 brought forward the resolution which also
calls for the United States to enter a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty as a priority in Los
Angeles’ 2021-2022 Federal Legislative Program.

Los Angeles joins New York as the two largest cities in the U.S. consider a Fossil Fuel
Non-Proliferation Treaty. Vancouver, Canada was the first to endorse on October 15 with the
vote passing unanimously. Cities have a critical role in stopping the expansion of fossil fuels,
just as they did in ending the proliferation of nuclear weapons by establishing Nuclear Free
Zones and demanding subnational and national governments take action.

Councilmember Paul Koretz said, “With a devastating and costly nearly year-round wildfire
season and ongoing drought, we are already experiencing the impacts of climate change.
While our entire community is affected by the health and safety risks of fossil fuel expansion,
those on the frontlines living adjacent to drill sites and refineries face severe health inequities. A Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty is needed to avoid locking in even greater risks and advance a fair energy transition.”

“Los Angeles cements its role as a leader in climate action with the introduction of a
resolution to endorse the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. Now is the time for other cities
to join LA and New York in sending a strong signal to President-Elect Biden and Vice
President Elect-Harris that the non-proliferation of fossil fuels should be at the center of the
United States’ climate and national security policy.” said Tzeporah Berman, Chair of the
Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and International Program Director at Stand.earth.

The United Nations Environment Programme states that industry and national governments’
plans to expand fossil fuels would result in 120 percent more emissions by 2030 than what is in
keeping with the limit of 1.5 degrees Celsius of warming. Yet, there is a distinct absence of any
mention of fossil fuels in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and
the Paris Agreement, highlighting the need for a complimentary treaty that tackles the
production side of the crisis. A dangerous gap between climate goals and fossil fuel
production grows from this lack of accountability and transparency.
The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation underlines these risks and provides a framework to foster international cooperation to eliminate them. The Treaty moves forward under three pillars, drawing from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty:

**Non-Proliferation – Don’t Add to the Problem**
An immediate end to the expansion into new reserves of coal, oil and natural gas would limit the globe’s production of carbon emissions, which if left alone would greatly exceed the Paris Agreement’s temperature limits.

**Global Disarmament – Get Rid of the Existing Threat**
Since existing oil and gas fields and coal mines contain enough carbon on their own to exceed 1.5C, phasing out current stockpiles is critically needed.

**Peaceful Transition – Accelerate an Equitable Transition**
Every worker, community, and country must be taken into the deepest consideration as the world moves away from fossil fuels. Only a proactive plan to enable economic diversification, implement renewable energy and other reliable, cost-effective low-carbon solutions will be able to meet the needs of a sustainable future.

For more information on the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, please visit the [website](#) and [introduction video](#).

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