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Mayor Eric Garcetti
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

February 1, 2018

Dear Mayor Garcetti,

We are writing to you in support of the more than 500 Los Angeles area Greenpeace supporters who are asking you to protect them and their fellow citizens from the costs of climate change by taking steps to file litigation against the fossil fuel industry.

Two Los Angeles City Council Members have already called for the city to explore a lawsuit, pointing to the existing costs of climate change for Angelenos, as well as those that the city will face in the coming decades. Infrastructure damage, increasingly severe droughts and wildfires, as well as mudslides, are already threatening Californians' lives and livelihoods. 2017 was the most expensive year on record for climate-change-fueled extreme weather events, and the costs of climate change are only going to increase. As a climate leader, we know you are considering the adaptation and resilience measures that Los Angeles must take, and we urge you to heed your City Council, and the citizens calling on you today.

As the co-founder of the Climate Mayors and a member of the C40 Steering Committee, you have emphasized city leadership in confronting and solving the challenges of climate change. Nine other US cities (including eight in California) have filed lawsuits against fossil fuel corporations, demanding that the companies most responsible for this crisis are held accountable for their fair share of the damages they have caused. The burdens of climate change costs should not fall solely on Los Angeles taxpayers' backs, but be shared by those who knew about the coming crisis yet continued to extract, sell, and burn carbon products.

Mayor Garcetti, your constituents are asking you to join the good and necessary company of other climate leaders that are standing up not for corporate profits, but for people, their livelihoods, and future generations. We hope you will answer them.

With best regards,

Annie M. Leonard
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