March 2, 2020

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal  
United States House of Representatives  
108 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515


Dear Congressman Lowenthal:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write in support of House Resolution 5636 (Lowenthal), the Transparency in Energy Production Act of 2020. Currently, the Department of Interior is required to disclose the amounts of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from fossil fuel production on public lands without informing the public of the responsible source. This legislation proposes to require public land leases for both renewable energy and fossil fuel production to report disaggregated data by source.

Long Beach strives to be a sustainable and resilient city in the face of climate change. The City is developing its first-ever Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). The CAAP will help to reduce GHG emissions, prepare the community for climate change impacts, improve quality of life, and enhance economic vitality in Long Beach. On May 31, 2019, a draft CAAP was published. The draft CAAP includes measures for increasing access to information regarding oil and gas extraction emissions, similar to the intent of H.R. 5636. The CAAP also includes supporting efforts to minimize global demand for the types of oil and gas resources extracted in the city leading to a reduction in local oil and gas extraction as part of the CAAP’s long-term strategy to address oil and gas lifecycle emissions.

The City supports the implementation of the CAAP. Understanding the entities responsible for GHG emissions, as H.R. 5636 proposes, would inform the public of the private sector’s impact on the environment, especially as energy consumption is projected to increase from population growth and climate change. The Transparency in Energy Production Act of 2020 would facilitate effective implementation of the City’s CAAP.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports H.R. 5636.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia  
City of Long Beach

CC:  The Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein  
The Honorable Senator Kamala Harris  
The Honorable Congressmember Nanette Barragan, 44th District