



City of Needles, California Request for Commission Action

CITY COUNCIL BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Regular Special

Meeting Date: March 3, 2026

Title: 2009 EPA Finding Regarding Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Background: In October 2025, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a proposed rule to end the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP), a key source of transparency into industrial emissions through mandatory GHG disclosures from thousands of the most carbon-intensive facilities in the U.S.

The current administration is set to overturn the ruling that provided specific scientific data determination that greenhouse gas emissions endanger human health, which would be removed from regulation, and would change the climate policy.

President Donald Trump and EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin will “formalize the rescission of the 2009 Obama-era endangerment finding” at a White House ceremony.

The action “will be the largest deregulatory action in American history, and it will save the American people \$1.3 trillion in crushing regulations”. The bulk of the savings will stem from reduced costs for new vehicles, with the EPA projecting average per-vehicle savings of more than \$2,400 for popular light-duty cars, SUVs, and trucks.

The endangerment finding is the legal underpinning of nearly all climate regulations under the Clean Air Act for motor vehicles, power plants, and other pollution sources that are heating the planet.

The initial findings may potentially expand to power-plant generators and consumers in the future.

Fiscal Impact: None at this time.

Environmental Impact: This action is not a project under CEQA.

Recommended Action: Provide staff direction

Submitted By: Terry Campbell, Chairman

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 2/25/2026

Other Department Approval (when required): _____

Date: _____