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LEE KANON ALPERT ELECTED PRESIDENT OF
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS/LOS ANGELES DEPT. OF WATER & POWER

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.--In a unanimous vote by the Los Angeles City Council on November 18, Lee Kanon Alpert was elected president of the Board of Commissioners for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Alpert was appointed to the board in December 2007 by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

LADWP is the nation's largest municipal utility, serving 640,000 water customers and 1.4 million electric customers in Los Angeles. "Next year will bring tremendous challenges to LADWP," says Alpert. "We are experiencing a prolonged drought and dwindling water supplies from Northern California. This one-two punch is making water more less available and therefore more expensive. Legal and environmental requirements are modernizing and modifying the means of manufacturing and producing energy. This creates better environmental results but also is accompanied by increased energy costs. Our challenge will be to carefully and properly manage our water and energy resources so we can keep costs to an acceptable level and ensure a sufficient and safe supply of both water and power for all LADWP customers, as our needs continue to rise. ."

Alpert is a principal with the Encino law firm of Alpert, Barr & Grant. Throughout his career, he has been involved in business, legal and government boards. He is a member of the Regional Governing Board of Providence Health & Services and chairman of the Board of Directors for Genesis LA Economic Growth Corporation. Past boards on which Alpert has served or chaired include the Los Angeles World Airports Board of Airport Commissioners, City of Los Angeles First Commission on Neighborhood Councils, City of Los Angeles Board of Building & Safety Commission, the 12th Los Angeles City Council District's Citizens Advisory Council, the Los Angeles County Commission on Judicial Procedures and on the California State Senate and Assembly Business Advisory Commissions.

"This is an exciting opportunity to help our community," says Alpert. "My pledge is to simply do the best I can to lead this organization, and in a collaborative effort, find efficient ways to provide the utility services necessary for our customers at a fair and reasonable price. In doing so we also must recognize the practical and financial need to build new and repair old structures and to maintain and protect both our employees and our assets. This is truly a delicate balancing act, that at times will be difficult to achieve, but must be done."