The Gulf Oil Spill has impacted countless lives and constitutes one of the greatest environmental disasters in United States history. British Petroleum (BP) is currently in the process of cleaning up affected Gulf Coast beaches and is searching for a specific piece of beach sanitizing equipment, the Beach Tech 2000, which is most suited for its cleanup efforts. BP has placed orders with the equipment manufacturer for new units, however, orders could take several weeks to fill. Because BP would like to have the units in service right away, it requested the manufacturer of this sanitizer to ask its clients if they would be willing to immediately provide functioning Beach Tech 2000 units to BP for the cleanup effort. In return, BP will pay for the entire cost of a new unit, including tax, delivery, and all other associated costs. The new units are currently being manufactured and are expected to be provided in October 2010.

-MORE-

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The Department of Beaches and Harbors has a Beach Tech 2000 sanitizer unit that can be spared for a short period of time and is willing to do its part to help with the Gulf Coast cleanup efforts. Although the unit was purchased through LAC-CAL, the mechanics of fully owning the unit outright can be accomplished immediately subsequent to the Board's action today and the unit will thereby be available for relinquishment to BP the same week. A legal agreement is also being expedited whereby the County will receive a brand new Beach Tech 2000, valued at an estimated \$50,000, with new warranties in exchange for the three-year old piece of equipment it is making available to BP.

I applaud the Department of Beaches and Harbors, as well as the Chief Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller, and County Counsel, for being committed to making this exchange happen. Particularly given the latest news about a new oil spill in the same region, their actions couldn't be more necessary or timely and yet again make the County of Los Angeles shine when it comes to being a partner to another local jurisdiction in its time of need.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Department of Beaches and Harbors to work with the Chief Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller and County Counsel to take all necessary actions that will release Beaches and Harbors' existing Beach Tech 2000 sanitizer unit for BP's use with the condition that Beaches and Harbors is provided with a new unit of the same model with new warranties at no or virtually no cost when the new unit becomes available in October 2010.

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