

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A STATE GOAL OF 100% CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY BY 2050 AND CREATION OF GREEN JOBS

WHEREAS for many years, climate scientists have predicted that greenhouse gases emitted by burning fossil fuels would increase the Earth's average temperatures and change its climate with dire consequences;

WHEREAS scientists have predicted that an increase in the average temperature is causing and will continue to cause major adverse impacts such as longer and more intense heat waves, prolonged droughts, spread of infectious diseases, rising sea levels, ocean acidification, wildfires, and more intense and more frequent extreme weather events;

WHEREAS studies point to severe economic costs of climate change;

WHEREAS there are significant risks to counties and municipalities in North Carolina which will incur large, unpredictable costs adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change;

WHEREAS responsible planning requires that Forsyth County begin to address the possible effects of climate change and support actions to mitigate those effects; and

WHEREAS the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners commit to achieving a goal of 80% clean and renewable energy for its operations by 2030, with a complete transition to 100% clean and renewable in all energy sectors by 2050; encouraging the larger community to strive toward a goal of 80% clean and renewable energy by 2030 with a complete transition to 100% clean and renewable in all energy sectors by 2050; promoting green job creation and economic growth; forming partnerships with other county governments to achieve a statewide goal of 80% clean and renewable energy by 2030 and a complete transition to 100% clean and renewable in all energy sectors by 2050; and supporting the enactment of national and statewide policies such as the proposed Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners commit to achieving these goals, which will promote a sustainable and clean energy economy for North Carolina and the United States.

Adopted this the 14th day of November 2019.