Template [Governing Body] Resolution

A RESOLUTION OF THE [Governing Body] OF [YOUR TOWN] IN SUPPORT OF CLEAN ENERGY

WHEREAS, clean energy sources such as wind and solar are now more affordable than fossil fuel sources; and energy efficiency measures that drive down energy demand are the most cost effective means to reduce fossil fuel consumption; and

WHEREAS, clean energy is one of the fastest growing employment sectors and creates opportunities for good local jobs within the city; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy represents an enormous economic opportunity for [YOUR TOWN] to create jobs in an emerging industry, increase economic security and expand prosperity for local residents, reduce air pollution and associated public health risks, reduce the strain on water resources, and save consumers money; and

WHEREAS, documented impacts of continued reliance on fossil-fuel energy includes but is not limited to increased occurrences of sea level rise, extreme weather events (e.g. floods and droughts), adverse impacts on shore and marine ecosystems, an increase in medical emergencies, and adverse effects on economic value chains; and

WHEREAS, economically disadvantaged residents, older people and children, people of color, immigrants, people who are homeless, and people with existing mental or health conditions experience these detrimental impacts disproportionately; and

WHEREAS, these detrimental impacts of climate change can cause damage to public parks, roads, municipal properties and equipment, and resources for first responders can be strained; and

WHEREAS, it is less expensive to plan for and mitigate these impacts, than respond to emergencies when they happen; and

WHEREAS, studies show the feasibility of creating a 100 percent carbon-free energy system while creating jobs and improving public health; and

WHEREAS, transitioning to 100 percent clean energy now provides communities an opportunity to access first-mover advantage in the range of products, services and know-how that transitioning to a climate-compatible future brings; and

WHEREAS, cities across the state and nation have made commitments to transition to 100 percent clean energy and [YOUR TOWN] strives to remain a leader among its peer cities; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey *Global Warming Response Act* has mandated statewide reduction of GreenHouse Gas emissions to 80% below 2006 levels by 2050; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT [YOUR TOWN]: commit to transition to 100 percent clean energy in the form of wind and solar and energy efficiency measures within the electricity sector by 2035 and all energy-use sectors including heating and transportation by 2050. [GOVERNING BODY]  requests that the City develop a plan by [DATE] to meet the clean energy goal through a transparent and inclusive stakeholder process which includes community members as well as representatives from organizations representing labor, faith, social justice, environmental justice, frontline communities and those most impacted by our current energy systems, public health and the environment, economic development, utility sector, clean energy sector, universities and academic institutions, business, housing, employment services, low income advocates, government, and any other relevant groups.

Introduced on [DATE] by:

Adopted on [DATE] as attested by