



City of Philadelphia

City Council
Chief Clerk's Office
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Philadelphia, PA 19107

RESOLUTION NO. 140662

Introduced September 11, 2014

Councilmember Reynolds Brown

RESOLUTION

Supporting President Obama and The Environmental Protection Agencies' Clean Power Plan that will help reduce carbon pollution from existing power plants throughout the United States.

WHEREAS, The Council of the City of Philadelphia is strongly committed to promoting environmental efforts locally, regionally, and nationally; and

WHEREAS, The National Climate Assessment has identified extreme precipitation, flooding, declining air quality, extremely hot days, and more as observed impacts of climate change in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Numerous authoritative scientific bodies, including the US Global Change Research Program, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have recognized that carbon pollution created by the burning of fossil fuels is contributing to global warming; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's power plants are its largest source of carbon pollution, contributing to 47% of its total; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Massachusetts v. EPA* (2007) that greenhouse gases are "air pollutants" as defined by the Clean Air Act and the Environmental Protection Agency has the authority to regulate them; and

WHEREAS, The Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Clean Power Plan sets a target of reducing the carbon emissions rate from Pennsylvania's power plants for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 32% by 2030; and

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WHEREAS, The Clean Power Plan gives Pennsylvania the opportunity to design its own plan to meet its carbon reduction targets by investing in renewable energy and energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, Energy efficiency and renewable energy like wind and solar are proven, cost-effective alternatives to burning fossil fuels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That Council does hereby request that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection work with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials to develop a plan to reduce carbon pollution from Pennsylvania's power plants and maximize the potential for renewable energy and energy efficiency.