

**Item Title:** Resolution Endorsing the Goal of Achieving 100% Clean Energy by 2050

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners adopts a resolution endorsing the goal of achieving 100% clean energy by 2050.**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** The Board of Commissioners approves County resolutions and other policy guidance.

**Background:** Over the past several months, the Board's Growth, Land Use, and Environment (GLUE) committee has considered the parameters for a long-term clean energy goal for Wake County. The Committee first discussed this concept in March 2018, then charged staff to evaluate the feasibility of achieving 100% clean renewable energy sources by 2050. Staff reviewed legal, economic, operational, and technological issues related to this goal. Staff also consulted energy experts and sought input from the County's Energy Advisory Commission.

On September 10 2018, staff and GLUE committee members refined a resolution endorsing a goal of 100% clean, renewable energy by 2050. Staff briefed the full Board of Commissioners at a work session on October 8, recommended the resolution, and received the Board's endorsement to proceed with adopting the resolution. The resolution provides flexibility to implement renewable energy systems when technically, economically, and organizationally feasible.

**Board Goal:** This action complements Growth and Sustainability Objective 2: Promote sustainability efforts, as well as other Board initiatives.

**Fiscal Impact:** This resolution makes no specific financial commitment. Future investments in renewable technology, and potential operating savings from those investments, will be estimated at a future date.

**Additional Information:**

This resolution applies to Wake County Government facilities and vehicles. It establishes a goal of fully relying on renewable energy sources by 2050, but allows for discretion based on available technology, budget availability, and organizational readiness.

The proposed resolution:

- Endorses the goal of 100% Clean Energy by 2050
- Joins other fellow state and local governments in advocating for the use of Clean Energy

- Emphasizes reasonable and foreseeable economic return on investment
- Authorizes the County Manager to support efforts toward the Clean Energy by 2050 goal through fiscally responsible budget expenditures, and
- Encourages all energy sectors of Wake County's economy to adopt similar goals in their own operations.

**Attachments:**

1. Presentation
2. Resolution
3. Presentation from October 8 Work Session