

**RESOLUTION
(LYING OVER)**

NO. R-22-11

CITY HALL: January 6, 2022

BY: COUNCILMEMBER MORENO

SECONDED BY: COUNCILMEMBER GREEN

A **RESOLUTION** directing the City of New Orleans and Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans to procure 100% renewable power to meet each organization's energy needs.

WHEREAS, through its approval of Resolution R-21-182 in May 2021, the Council adopted a Renewable and Clean Portfolio Standard (RCPS) for the City of New Orleans, which mandates Entergy New Orleans (ENO) to provide 100% clean power to New Orleanians by ending carbon emissions by 2050 and reaching net-zero carbon by 2040; the final RCPS policy will put New Orleans on the map as a leader in climate change throughout the south and across the country; and

WHEREAS, as direct regulators of ENO, the Council has the unique opportunity to end the utility's emissions on a timeline that is aggressive, attainable, and most importantly, affordable to New Orleans ratepayers, capping costs at only 1% of sales a year and guaranteeing residents can afford the transition they need and deserve; and

WHEREAS, the mandatory standard set demands that ENO end its carbon footprint and set a course for a grid powered by clean and renewable energy and requires public transparency and reporting to ensure ratepayers remain informed and can help hold the company accountable; and

WHEREAS, in addition to this strong policy that will ensure real and meaningful change in New Orleans and significantly improve the quality of life for all its people, it is imperative that the City of New Orleans is thoughtful around its own energy consumption and the cost-saving implications of using renewable energy to power municipal operations; and

WHEREAS, our sustainable and more resilient future depends on collaborative action and partnerships and the City of New Orleans has the opportunity to make its own meaningful impact by transitioning to more efficient sources of energy; and

WHEREAS, corporations and organizations across the globe often join together to procure renewable power directly in order to meet internal emission-reduction goals as well as to accelerate investment in renewable energy projects; and

WHEREAS, the largest corporate buyers of renewable energy contracted with 10.6GW of capacity in 2020 alone, according to the largest coalition engaged in this work, the Renewable Energy Buyers Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Renewables Accelerator, a public sector renewable power collective, reported that 16GW of capacity acquired by cities and municipalities over the past six years; and

WHEREAS, municipal operations consumed approximately 94,000MwH of electricity in 2020 alone, and the City spends more than \$9 million of tax dollars annually on electricity; and

WHEREAS, according to the Sierra Club, more than 180 cities, counties, and states have committed to power their communities with 100% clean, renewable energy including Houston, Texas; Atlanta, Georgia; Tallahassee, Florida; Raleigh, North Carolina; and more; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the City of New Orleans will work collaboratively with the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, City Council, stakeholders, the Council Utility Regulatory Office (CURO), Council advisors, and Entergy New Orleans to procure by direct agreement or other means a path to power all municipal operations with 100% renewable energy by January 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the New Orleans City Council encourages the City of New Orleans to use all possible means to seek energy efficiencies through improved technology and operational protocols to reduce emissions and the cost of power acquisition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the New Orleans City Council encourages the expansion of our renewable energy investment that helps us build a more sustainable city and achieves the central goal of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of Council transmit certified copies of this resolution to Mayor LaToya Cantrell; Ramsey Green, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Infrastructure & Chief Resilience Officer; Jonathan Rhodes, Mayor's Office of Utilities; Deanna Rodriguez, President and CEO of Entergy New Orleans; Ghassan Khorban, Executive Director of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans; and Erin Spears, Council Utilities Regulatory Office Chief of Staff & Counsel.

JANUARY 20, 2022

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF, AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Giarrusso, Green, Harris, King, Moreno, Morrell, Thomas - 7

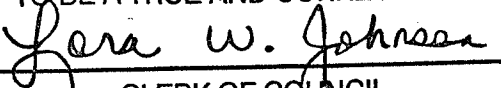
NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

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THE FOREGOING IS CERTIFIED
TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY


CLERK OF COUNCIL