

A Resolution of the Granby Board of Selectmen in Support of 20% Clean Energy by 2010

WHEREAS, electricity production is the leading cause of industrial air pollution in the United States which can result in a variety of health risks to Granby residents including cases of asthma especially in children; and

WHEREAS, the world's most respected association of climate scientists, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), projects that global warming will be even more severe than previously thought, with temperatures in Connecticut projected to rise by approximately 4 degrees Fahrenheit this Century and with the vast majority of warming clearly attributable to human activity; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact of not using conservation technology and alternative energy sources results in direct and indirect costs to Granby citizens. These costs include medical, lost days at work, and environmental; and

WHEREAS, the 20% by 2010 campaign is a Connecticut not-for-profit initiative that seeks to have cities and towns obtain 20% of the electricity for municipal properties from clean, renewable energy sources by the year 2010, and

WHEREAS, greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced in a cost-effective manner that enhances economic development by applying currently available energy efficiency technologies and such renewable energy programs as Granby and many towns have implemented that save money, create jobs and strengthen local economies; and

WHEREAS, clean energy resources – such as wind, solar and water – constantly replenish themselves, do not cause the buildup of global warming gases and health-damaging pollutants, and if properly managed, will be available to serve our energy needs forever; and

WHEREAS, by meeting the goals of 20% by 2010, Granby can begin to address the problems resulting from conventional power sources and receive the benefits associated with clean, renewable power sources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Granby commits to the goal of obtaining at least 20% of its municipal energy purchases from clean renewable energy resources by the year 2010, beginning with a purchase of 5% in 2008.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town create an entity such as a task force to research and make recommendations so that Granby can reach the 20% by 2010 goal. The Task Force will investigate options for meeting that goal, including enrolling in the CTCleanEnergyOptions program, purchasing Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) and/or on-site renewable energy installations, and will research funding opportunities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Selectmen encourages all Granby residents and businesses to support clean energy and practice energy conservation and efficiency in their homes and offices.