

FCP4CE Releases Resolution to Achieve 100% Renewable Electricity by 2030

Posted on April 21, 2018

Fort Collins, CO. Today, Fort Collins Partners for Clean Energy released a proposed resolution for the Fort Collins City Council to adopt the goal of achieving 100% renewable electricity by 2030. The proposed resolution will be presented to the Fort Collins City Council for adoption May 1st.

The resolution recognizes bold steps the city has taken to address climate change, including the original Climate Action Plan (CAP) that was adopted in 1999, and recent market conditions that make achieving the 100% renewable electricity goal by 2030 more feasible. It highlights some delays in the efforts Fort Collins has made to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the last decade, including the fact that the city is unlikely to meet the 32% reduction of GHG emissions by 2020 called for in its 2015 CAP Framework. The resolution provides context for the necessity of reliable, high-quality, and affordable energy to all residents and local businesses in Fort Collins, and states that many of the largest consumers in Fort Collins, such as CSU, have adopted similar 100% renewable electricity by 2030 goals.

In addition to the proposed resolution, the Fort Collins Partners for Clean Energy will submit recommendations to the Council regarding the logistics of achieving 100% renewable electricity in a way that is transparent, well-informed, and equitable.

Across the U.S, cities are moving towards economically-affordable renewable electricity. In Colorado, the cities of Aspen, Boulder, Pueblo, Breckenridge, Nederland, and most recently, Longmont, have made commitments to achieving 100% renewable electricity. "As an already nationally-recognized leader on climate change, Fort Collins should be the next city in Colorado to go 100% renewable," says Sarah Snead of the Poudre Canyon Group Sierra Club.

In 2017, Xcel, the largest utility in the state, found that solar and wind power are significantly cheaper than any other form of new electricity in Colorado. The Platte River Power Authority (PRPA), the generating utility that serves Fort Collins, Longmont, Loveland and Estes Park, tripled the amount of wind power it put under contract last year after calculating that adding more wind will lower rates charged to member communities by up to 5%. "It's just good business sense to invest in more renewable electricity today," said Fred Kirsch, Executive Director of the Community for Sustainable Energy. "The new wind project PRPA is building will produce electricity at a cost lower than existing coal plants. Investing in renewables now will be good for our environment and good for the local economy."

"With the help of the Fort Collins Sustainability Group, the City put into place ambitious greenhouse gas emission reduction goals as part of its Climate Action Plan," remarked Kevin Cross, spokesperson for the Fort Collins Sustainability Group. "Without setting a 100% renewable electricity by 2030 goal today, it will be difficult if not impossible for the City to meet existing climate action goals."

Formally established in the summer of 2017, the Fort Collins Partners for Clean Energy (FCP4CE) consists of the Fort Collins Sustainability Group, Community for Sustainable Energy (CforSE), 350 Northern Colorado, Sierra Club Poudre Canyon Group, Northern Colorado Renewable Energy Society (NCRES), Transition Fort Collin, Environment Colorado, Fort Collins for Progress, and the League of Women Voters- Larimer County. The coalition aims to advance the sustainable future of Fort Collins.

The proposed resolution is available here:

http://fcsg.fccan.org/sites/fcsg.fccan.org/files/Fort%20Collins%20100%20Percent%20RE%20Resolution%20041918_1.pdf.