

Council of the City of York, PA  
Session 2014  
Resolution No.

INTRODUCED BY: **Carol Hill-Evans**

DATE:

**WHEREAS**, the City of York has already experienced the impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events such as the recent ice storm in February of 2014 which resulted in a disaster declaration and left more than 70,000 York County residents without power; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change facilitates the spread of diseases like West Nile Virus, and according to the York County West Nile Virus Program, in 2012 York County was ranked first in the state and third in the nation for most mosquito carriers of the West Nile Virus; 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 48% 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 percent by 2030; and

**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 York, Pennsylvania, that York City Council respectfully requests 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 to exceed its Clean Power Plan target, and that maximizes the potential for renewable energy and energy efficiency.

PASSED FINALLY:

BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

YEAS: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Hill-Evans, President of Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dianna L. Thompson-Mitchell, City Clerk