



# TOWN OF FAIRFAX

## STAFF REPORT

August 5, 2015

**TO:** Mayor and Town Council

**FROM:** Michele Gardner, Town Clerk *MG*

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of a Resolution in Support of SB 350, which seeks to increase the use of clean energy and reduce pollution

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### RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution

### DISCUSSION

Mayor Coler added this item to tonight's agenda for Council consideration, pursuant to Senator de Leon's request for support of the bill.

### ATTACHMENT

Resolution

## RESOLUTION 15-\_\_

### A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 350 THE CLEAN ENERGY AND POLLUTION REDUCTION ACT OF 2015

**WHEREAS**, according to the American Lung Association, California is home to the five most polluted cities in the nation for ozone and particulate matter, which come primarily from vehicle tailpipe emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, twice as many Californians die early deaths from the health impacts of vehicular pollution than from motor vehicle accidents every year; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 350 will grow the supply of clean, affordable alternatives to gasoline; and

**WHEREAS**, cars today are 90% more fuel efficient and cleaner than they were just 20 years ago, thanks to strong state and federal standards; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 350 supports consumer choice by increasing diversity in our vehicle, fuel, and transportation options by requiring the state to achieve up to a 50% reduction in petroleum use, which can be met through a combination of cleaner fuels, increased fuel efficiency and other strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, electricity is more affordable than traditional gas or diesel; according to the U.S. Department of Energy, the cost to drive an electric vehicle is equivalent to just over \$1 per gallon; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a 2014 report by the California Energy Commission, when assessed over the lifetime of the facility generating it, electricity from most renewable sources is now cheaper than natural gas and is expected to become even more price-competitive over the next 10 years; and

**WHEREAS**, wind and solar are now cheaper per kilowatt hour than fossil fuels like natural gas and coal in many energy markets; and

**WHEREAS**, solar photovoltaic (PV) contract costs for California's largest utilities declined by 62 percent on average since 2007. By 2016, they are predicted to match the cost of electricity purchased from the grid; and

**WHEREAS**, California's GDP is nearly 30% higher than it was in 2006 (\$2.2 trillion vs. \$1.6 trillion), and our economy is now 28% less carbon intensive (per dollar of economic activity) than it was in 1990, showing our GDP is growing while our emissions fall; and

**WHEREAS**, California leads the nation in manufacturing employment and output, despite our aggressive greenhouse gas reduction policies, and the state has added manufacturing jobs for three straight years;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that Town Council of the Town of Fairfax, supports Senate Bill 350 the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015

The foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax, held in said Town on the 5th day of August 2015, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
BARBARA COLER, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michele Gardner, Town Clerk