

RESOLUTION NO. 28314

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EPA'S CLEAN POWER
PLAN AND PROMOTION OF CLEAN ENERGY.

WHEREAS, in January 2009, the City of Chattanooga adopted The Chattanooga Climate Action Plan (CCAP) which includes a GHG inventory for the City, an overview of carbon-reducing policies, and recommended steps to lower Chattanooga's carbon footprint;

WHEREAS, in 2009, the City of Chattanooga received the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence for the creation of the Take Root initiative;

WHEREAS, in 2013 the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) awarded Chattanooga a Platinum rating in the TVA Valley Sustainable Communities Program for a commitment to integrating economic development into sustainability efforts;

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2014, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the draft Clean Power Plan, which aims to cut carbon pollution from existing power plants nationwide;

WHEREAS, power plants are the single largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the country, accounting for roughly one-third of all emissions in the United States, yet there are currently no national limits on carbon pollution from power plants;

WHEREAS, carbon pollution exacerbates climate change and contributes to more frequent and more violent extreme weather events that costs our city and threatens public health;

WHEREAS, the third U.S. National Climate Assessment found Tennessee's food and water supplies, infrastructure, and natural communities, such as the Smoky Mountains, are at risk from climate change;

WHEREAS, our most vulnerable community members, including children, the elderly, and low-income families, contribute the least to climate change but often suffer the most due to health vulnerabilities, poor housing stock, and limited income;

WHEREAS, the Clean Power Plan is projected to reduce smog and fine particulate matter pollution, saving 3,500 American lives and preventing 1,000 hospitalizations annually;

WHEREAS, the Clean Power Plan is consistent with the City of Chattanooga's priorities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, make energy conservation and efficiency a priority in municipal and community operations, and increase use of renewable energy resources;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, That it hereby supports the EPA's Clean Power Plan and seeks to further promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in city and community operations and by adoption of this Resolution, the City Clerk will send a copy of this Resolution to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy at Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Mail Code: 1101A, Washington, DC 20460, McCarthy.Gina@epa.gov. by July 15, 2015.

ADOPTED: June 30, 2015

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