



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

Res 31667

Record No.: Res 31667

Type: Resolution (Res)

Status: Adopted

Version: 1

Ord. no:

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 05/04/2016

Final Action: 06/10/2016

Title: A RESOLUTION stating The City of Seattle's support for clean and safe electricity production and opposition to the use of fossil fuels and new nuclear energy in the generation of electricity, and requiring an ongoing evaluation of existing nuclear power generation on the basis of health, safety, reliability, and cost; and instructing that The City of Seattle's City Light Department reflect this position in its policies and interactions with other utilities, federal and state agencies, and organizations of which it is a member or participant.

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk: 6/10/2016

Mayor's Signature: 6/3/2016

Sponsors: Sawant

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Drafter: jodee.schwinn@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published: Yes No

Version:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	City Clerk	05/11/2016	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
1	Council President's Office	05/12/2016	sent for review	Energy and Environment Committee			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Energy and Environment Committee						
	Notes:						
1	Full Council	05/16/2016	referred	Energy and Environment Committee			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was referred. to the Energy and Environment Committee						
	Notes:						

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION 31667

1
2
3 A RESOLUTION stating The City of Seattle's support for clean and safe electricity production
4 and opposition to the use of fossil fuels and new nuclear energy in the generation of
5 electricity, and requiring an ongoing evaluation of existing nuclear power generation on
6 the basis of health, safety, reliability, and cost; and instructing that The City of Seattle's
7 City Light Department reflect this position in its policies and interactions with other
8 utilities, federal and state agencies, and organizations of which it is a member or
9 participant.

10 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle operates an electric utility by and through its City Light
11 Department that is commonly known as Seattle City Light ("City Light"); and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Washington's Department of Commerce estimates that in 2014 one
13 percent of City Light's fuel mix came from coal-generated electricity; and

14 WHEREAS, the State of Washington estimates that in 2014 less than one percent of City Light's
15 fuel mix came from natural gas-generated electricity; and

16 WHEREAS, the State of Washington estimates that in 2014 four percent of City Light's fuel mix
17 was nuclear energy generated by the Columbia Generating Station, formerly known as
18 the Washington Public Power Supply System Nuclear Plant 2 or WPPSS-2; and

19 WHEREAS, City Light is a leader in generating and supporting clean and safe energy and
20 protecting the environment in the United States, including its use of carbon offsets that
21 have allowed it to declare itself "carbon neutral" since 2005; and

22 WHEREAS, on July 12, 1976, the Seattle City Council adopted three resolutions adopting
23 conservation as the cornerstone of the long-term energy policy of The City of Seattle, and
24 voted down participation in the development of additional nuclear power plants proposed
25 by the Washington Public Power Supply System ("WPPSS"); and
26
27
28

1 WHEREAS, many countries, states, and municipalities around the world are coming to the
2 conclusion that they can no longer afford the current risk and the future environmental
3 sacrifice of fossil fuels and nuclear energy; and

4 WHEREAS, battery technology, demand response, pumped storage, and other methods of
5 storing energy from variable sources of energy, such as solar and wind power, are
6 improving at a rapid rate – making the goal of 100 percent clean, healthy, and renewable
7 electricity achievable; and

8
9 WHEREAS, fair accommodation of the workforce at carbon- and nuclear-fueled thermal power
10 plants, including retraining programs, fair and equitable retirement plans, and
11 reassignment to decommissioning and other related tasks, is an essential part of the
12 transition to clean, healthy, and renewable electricity production; and

13
14 WHEREAS, the Northwest Energy Coalition, of which City Light is a member, issued a report
15 entitled “Bright Future” in preparation for the sixth Power and Conservation Plan by the
16 Northwest Power and Conservation Council, which found that 81,118 average megawatts
17 of power can be offset or generated in the Pacific Northwest by energy efficiency,
18 combined heat and power, and clean renewables by 2050, eliminating the need to use any
19 coal-powered electricity in the region; and

20
21 WHEREAS, the “Bright Future” report indicates that the potential 81,118 average megawatts
22 offset or generated would, after replacing coal-fired electricity, leave a potential surplus
23 of 55,518 average megawatts that could replace the approximately 1,170 megawatts of
24 electricity generated by the Columbia Generating Station nuclear power plant; NOW,
25 THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE
MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

Section 1. It is the policy of The City of Seattle to support clean and safe energy sources that generate the lowest amount of greenhouse gases or radioactive waste.

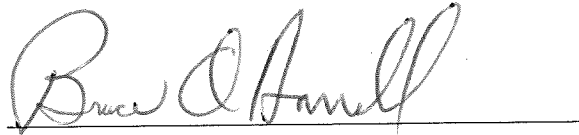
Section 2. The City of Seattle directs the City Light Department (“City Light”) to represent this policy by seeking ways, in its own policies and in interactions with other utilities, federal and state agencies, and organizations of which it is a member or participant, to promote the transition of electricity generation in the Pacific Northwest away from energy facilities that burn fossil fuels or use nuclear power.

Section 3. The City of Seattle directs City Light to use its position as an Energy Northwest board member and Columbia Generating Station participant to consider the issues of health, safety, reliability, and cost of the Columbia Generating Station nuclear power plant, on an ongoing basis, in determining its continued value for City Light and the region, and to consider replacing its electricity with carbon-neutral alternatives.

Adopted by the City Council the 31st day of MAY, 2016, and signed

by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 31st day of

MAY, 2016.



President _____ of the City Council

THE MAYOR CONCURRING:



Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Filed by me this 10th day of JUNE, 2016.



Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)