

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY SECOND COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-16-36 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Patrick Davis and Isaac Benton

1 RESOLUTION
2 ESTABLISHING A GOAL OF GENERATING TWENTY FIVE PERCENT OF THE
3 ENERGY CONSUMED BY CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE FACILITIES FROM SOLAR
4 ENERGY BY 2025.

5 WHEREAS, as of 2010 the State of New Mexico emits nearly 55 million
6 metric tons of carbon pollution a year from fossil fuel combustion; and

7 WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
8 reported with 95 percent certainty that anthropogenic carbon pollution is
9 causing global temperatures to rise, exacerbating extreme weather events
10 such as droughts, floods, and wildfires; and

11 WHEREAS, burning fossil fuels releases carbon, while solar energy
12 production does not; and

13 WHEREAS, fossil fuel-burning power plants frequently release toxic
14 pollutants, including mercury, acid gases, and particulate matter, that directly
15 damage nearby residents' health; and

16 WHEREAS, the market price of fossil fuels does not factor in the external
17 environmental and health costs caused by burning fossil fuels; and

18 WHEREAS, solar power is one of the cleanest sources of energy with
19 which the people of Albuquerque can power homes, businesses, and cars to
20 achieve better air quality and reduce carbon pollution; and

21 WHEREAS, producing one kilowatt-hour of energy via solar photovoltaic
22 (PV) systems requires approximately one-ninth as much water as producing
23 one kilowatt-hour from a combined cycle fossil gas plant, and one
24 seventeenth as much as from a coal-fired plant; and

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1 WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico receives more than 300 days of
2 sunshine per year, thereby granting it the second greatest solar potential of
3 the fifty states in the country; and

4 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque, was ranked 12th in the country of
5 major cities for installed solar capacity in 2014; and

6 WHEREAS, despite anemic conditions throughout the state's economy, the
7 New Mexican solar industry has grown steadily, with solar installations
8 increasing by 37 percent from 2013 to 2014; and

9 WHEREAS, the solar industry currently provides 1,900 jobs to New
10 Mexicans, which was a 73 percent increase from 2012 to 2015; and

11 WHEREAS, solar is a cost-competitive energy source, and decreasing
12 dependence on fossil fuels, the growth of solar power helps improve public
13 health; and

14 WHEREAS, the stated intent of §14-8-5-1 ROA 1994, the Energy
15 Conservation Council Ordinance, is to provide for the public welfare by
16 developing and implementing a community-wide effort to conserve energy
17 with the City's role being to provide a mechanism for community leadership in
18 reducing fossil fuel based energy consumption, to facilitate public
19 involvement in energy conservation, and increase the effectiveness of
20 programs carried on by other entities; and

21 WHEREAS, §2-12-1 the City's Capital Implementation Program Ordinance
22 reserves three percent of the Capital Improvements Program to fund the
23 design, installation, purchase, user training and monitoring of Energy
24 Conservation and/or Renewable Energy projects that reduce fossil fuel based
25 energy costs and consumption. The Ordinance recognizes that energy
26 savings generated from the projects using renewable energy have a lower life
27 cycle cost than a project using conventional fuels.

28 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**
29 **ALBUQUERQUE:**

30 Section 1. The City of Albuquerque recognizes the benefits provided
31 through solar energy for improving environmental health, public health and
32 growing the economy and desires to renew its commitment to this important

1 clean energy solution by establishing the goal of generating 25 percent of
2 energy for city facilities from solar power by 2025.

3 Section 2. By the end of the Second Quarter of fiscal year 2017, the
4 Energy Conservation Council shall submit an implementation plan to the
5 Mayor and the City Council that provides options, remedies, alternatives,
6 solutions and recommendations to achieve the goal set forth in Section 2 of
7 this Resolution.

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