

## **Resolution in support of The Renewables First Act by Zero Carbon Virginia**

WHEREAS, The Loudoun County Democratic Committee is a body that respects science, believes the predominant view of the science community that climate change is anthropogenic, and is working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, The Renewables First Act (RFA) will place a moratorium on constructing new fossil fuel electric generation capacity until renewable energy generation facilities with 5,500 megawatts capacity are in operation in Virginia;

WHEREAS, According to the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) report on "Global Warming of 1.5°C", the world faces severe, irreversible consequences if global temperatures increase by more than 1.5°C over pre-industrial levels. Limiting warming to 1.5°C would require "rapid and far-reaching" transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities. The IPCC report's modeling suggests that 70-80% of the world's electricity will need to come from renewable sources by 2050;

WHEREAS, Less than 1 percent of Virginia's total electricity generation came from solar in 2017;

WHEREAS, Virginia is 17th in the country in solar capacity, with 635 MW. North Carolina, a similar state in size and geography, is 2nd in the country with 4,490 MW;

WHEREAS, Virginia is currently one of only 9 states in the country without any utility-scale wind power;

WHEREAS, The Virginia Grid Transformation and Security Act of 2018 (VGTSA) establishes that 5500MW total of solar and wind capacity is in the public interest;

WHEREAS, The 2018 Virginia Energy Plan calls for 3000 MW of solar and onshore wind by 2022 and 2000 MW of offshore wind by 2028;

WHEREAS, Dominion's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) calls for meeting the coming capacity gap of 5500MW in its service area (which includes most of Virginia and some of North Carolina) by using a mix of renewables and a minimum of 8 natural gas plants; Therefore be it:

RESOLVED, On this, the 3rd day of January, 2019, The Loudoun County Democratic Committee supports the passage of The Renewables First Act by the Virginia General Assembly;

RESOLVED, The Loudoun County Democratic Committee demands a justified and rapid transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy.